

North Vancouver School District
SCHOOL PLAN for 2015-2016

School: Seymour Heights

Address: 2640 Carnation Street
North Vancouver, BC V7H 1H5
Phone: 604-903-3760

School/Community Context:

Seymour Heights is located east of the Seymour River and is part of the Windsor Family of Schools.

Seymour Heights is a school with a diverse population of students. The school is proud of its strong sense of community and acceptance of all students. A strong focus on self-regulation has helped create a calm and welcoming environment for students as well as their families.

Seymour Heights believes in the same core values as the North Vancouver School District as outlined in the 10 year strategic plan: trust, responsibility, respect and collaboration. This is demonstrated through our instructional practice, our daily communications as well as our focus on celebrating student success.

The staff at Seymour Heights has been focusing on creating a vision for the school community that encompasses our collective beliefs about what makes Seymour Heights the amazing learning community it is and how we can enhance this moving forward. The North Vancouver School District funded a collegial conferencing project that focussed on enhancing our learning environment to align with one of our beliefs that students learn best in a calm, respectful learning environment.

The school has great pride in our Sensory Learning space for students, especially benefiting our many students with special needs. This allows for all students to have a calm place to self-regulate and learn.

Our partnership with PAC, through their significant fundraising, as well as support from the North Vancouver School District, has allowed us to complete our Outdoor Learning Area in the courtyard of the school. The Outdoor Classroom is being used regularly to enhance student learning, as are the class learning gardens that have been completed through the efforts of the community and staff at Seymour Heights.

Seymour Heights continues to foster community relationships. The staff work collaboratively with a variety of community partners to support students including Parkgate Youth Workers, Boys and Girls Club and Ron Andrews Community Centre.

Demographics (2014-2015 school year):

Total number of students: 275 Male: 140 Female: 135

Number of students per grade								
Grade	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
English	24	40	35	44	29	35	39	29

# FTE Teachers & Administrators	% Aboriginal Students	% Special Needs Students	% International Students	% ESL
16.89	3%	10.5%	1%	7%

Progress Analysis:

Review of School Goals – Previous Year(s)

School Goal 1:

To improve literacy skills of students identified as “at risk” or not yet meeting grade level expectations.

Objective 1.1 To improve the reading performance of grade 1 students as measured by the DIBELS

Trend Data Table:

Key Performance Measure: Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills – Students who score within ‘some’ or ‘intensive’ support (below grade level)			
	Baseline	Target	Actual
2011-2012	Fall 2011 – 37%	10%	Spring 2012– 48%
2012-2013	Fall 2012 – 26%	10%	Spring 2013 – 38%
2013-2014	Fall 2013 – 26%	10%	Spring 2014 – 16%

Key Performance Measure:	Baseline	Target	Actual
2014-2015 Percentage of grade 1 students who met reading readiness as defined by DIBELS	80%	10% increase	June 2015

Trend Data Analysis: (indicators of progress over time – 1 to 3 yrs)

The Dibels assessment focuses on reading fluency. The baseline data indicates students who were in need of ‘intensive support’ (LAC) or ‘some support’ (classroom strategies) or not yet meeting grade levels. We have seen inconsistent improvement and will continue to focus LAC support (small group instruction with the learning assistance teacher or learning support worker) and retest the grade ones in March.

Last year we changed our data to indicate our level of success with reading readiness as assessed by the Dibels. The data above indicates a pattern of improvement...an increase in the number of students who are meeting expectations in reading, therefor not requiring Level 2 interventions.

We are currently testing all primary students with the Dibels to look for further patterns of improvement. We will only be reporting on the grade 1 progress for the purpose of this plan.

Objective 1.2 To improve reading proficiency of students identified as being “at risk” in grade 4.

Trend Data Table:

Key Performance Measure: Grade 4 – Percentage of students receiving a mark of C/C- in Language Arts for a specified reporting period.			
	Baseline	Target	Actual
2012-2013	March 2013 – 15%	5%decrease of baseline	March 2014 (grade 5)
2013-2014	March 2014 -	5%decrease of baseline	March 2015 (grade 5)

Key Performance Measure:	Baseline	Target	Actual
DIBELS GRADE 4 % of students Meeting Expectations in reading	Fall 2014	Increase by 10%	June 2015
Key Performance Measure:	Baseline	Target	Actual
GRADE 4 % of students receiving a mark of A, B or C+ in Language Arts	90%	Increase by 10%	June 2015

Trend Data Analysis: (indicators of progress over time – 1 to 3 yrs.)

To be consistent with our earlier objective around primary reading intervention, we have chosen to change the assessment measure. We will test the students using the Dibels, both in fluency and comprehension in future plans.

The new data will show the improvement from September until June and will be documented once the June data is available. Due to extenuating circumstances, the Dibels assessment was not completed with the grade 4 students and will therefore be completed and tracked for these students in grade 5. For the 2015-2016 School Plan, the SPC has recommended that we use data from both grade 4 and grade 5 students. In future years, we will continue to just use the data from the grade 4s.

Framing the results of the key performance measure in the positive (i.e. percentage of students who are meeting expectations in reading, students who receive a mark of A, B or C+...) is a change in this year's school plan. The SPC values the need to know students who are needing extra support but feel strongly about demonstrating this data in student overall success.

Objective 1.3 To improve students' overall confidence and ability in writing in grade 3 and grade 6.

Trend Data Table

Key Performance Measure: (Quantitative)	Baseline	Target	Actual
2014 Grade 3 and 6 - # of students meeting expectations in writing based on the School Wide Write	92%	5% increase	Fall 2015
Key Performance Measure: (Qualitative)	Baseline	Target	Actual
2014 Grade 3 and 6 - # of students reporting feeling confident in the area of writing: Survey data	81%	5% increase	Fall 2015

Trend Data Analysis: (indicators of progress over time – 1 to 3 yrs.)

We have only baseline data to document at this time. We will add the improvement as shown in the Fall of 2015. This data will be generated from both grade 4 and 7 students (to complete the data cycle from the 2014-2015 plan) and from grade 3 and 6 students (to begin the 2015-2016 plan).

Opportunities for Further Development:

- ~Primary Teachers participating in Changing Results for Young Readers workshop series
- ~Learning Assistance will continue to be provided for students who have been identified as requiring extra support and use reading strategies to support reading comprehension
- ~continue to provide opportunities in which students appreciate the benefits of reading (i.e. buddy classes, book clubs, silent reading opportunities, home reading program)
- ~Continue with the Literacy Partnership with Windsor Secondary School students (grades 2 and 3 students)
- ~continue to build on available reading resources for all grade levels
- ~continue to support the development of reading resources that focus on the reading comprehension strategies outlined in Adrienne Gear’s Reading Power
- ~continue to build on the non-fiction resources available to teachers as presented in Adrienne Gear’s Reading Power: Non-Fiction
- ~to continue to find and use innovative iPad app’s that focus on improving overall reading skills of all students in all grades
- ~continue to have a literacy focus during some Teacher Collaboration time
- ~Provide time at every staff meeting to share resources and strategies specifically in the area of literacy
- ~teachers increased commitment to build skills and confidence in the area of writing

School Goal 2:

To increase students’ sense of safety, engagement and belonging K-7 with a focus on self-regulation, student empowerment and outdoor learning.

Objective 2.1 To increase the number of students who report that they take an active role in making their classroom or school a better place.

Trend Data Table:

Key Performance Measure: BC Ministry of Education Satisfaction Survey: Percentage of students indicating “many times” or “all the time” in response to our focus question: “I take an active role to help make my classroom and school and better place.”			
	Baseline	Target	Actual
2012 Safe and Caring School Survey	66%	90%	Spring 2012– 89%
2014 Satisfaction Survey	89%	95%	Spring 2014 – 92%
2015 Satisfaction Survey	92%	95%	Spring 2015 –

Trend Data Analysis: (indicators of progress over time – 1 to 3 yrs.)

Leadership has been a strong focus in the school community, particularly in the area of environmental stewardship. We will continue to expand the accessibility of leadership opportunities throughout the school community.

Objective 2.2 To increase the number of students who report that they act in positive ways and make a safe environment.

Trend Data Table:

Key Performance Measure: North Vancouver Safe and Caring School Survey: Percentage of I have never or rarely experienced verbal or social bullying (exclusion, gossip, humiliation)			
	Baseline	Target	Actual
2013	80%	85%	76%
2014	76%	90%	78%
2015	78%	90%	***
Key Performance Measure: North Vancouver Safe and Caring School Survey: Percentage of I have never or rarely experienced physical bullying (hitting, kicking, punching, physical assault)			
	Baseline	Target	Actual
2013	80%	85%	82%
2014	82%	90%	89%
2015	89%	90%	***
Key Performance Measure: North Vancouver Safe and Caring School Survey: Percentage of I feel safe at school			
	Baseline	Target	Actual
2013	75%	90%	85%
2014	85%	100%	99%
2015	99%	100%	***
Key Performance Measure: North Vancouver Safe and Caring School Survey: Percentage of If I am bullied or see bullying take place, I would tell an adult			
	Baseline	Target	Actual
2013	71%	90%	81%
2014	81%	90%	85%
2015	85%	90%	***

Key Performance Measure: North Vancouver Safe and Caring School Survey: Percentage of Mean behaviour reported to administration

	Baseline	Target	Actual
Office referrals	Sept. 2012-April 2013 51	5% decrease of baseline	September 2013-April 2014 39
Office referrals	Sept. 2013-April 2014 39	5% decrease of baseline	September 2014-April 2015 20

Evidence: (Qualitative)

<p>Qualitative Baseline: (Spring 2013) Survey results: Things that make me feel unsafe: “...when someone is mean to me” (grade 1) “...bullying...mean people” (grade 4) “...watching people be bullied” (grade 6) “...spreading rumours and gossip” (grade 7)</p>
<p>Qualitative Target: - We will poll the students again in Spring 2015 and we will ask how the students can be proactively prevent mean behaviour in the school</p>
<p>Qualitative Actual: (Spring 2015 survey data) - What do you do when you see someone being bullied or interact with a mean person: -“...tell my teacher” (grade 1) -“...talk to the aids” (grade 2) -“...tell my parents at home” (grade 4) -“...intervene and tell them to back off” (grade 6) -“...tell them they are not cool for bullying” (grade 7)</p>

Trend Data Analysis: (indicators of progress over time – 1 to 3 yrs.)

<p>The qualitative and quantitative data show an improvement in all areas. We will continue to deepen the questioning for students around bullying and mean behaviour and how students can become proactive in the prevention of such behaviours.</p> <p>The school has had a significant drop in serious incidents this school year. As well throughout the year, office referrals for mean behaviour has continued to decline. This has been reported informally from office staff, tracking students who have been sent to the office requiring intervention with behaviour.</p> <p>We attribute this continued improvement to our direct teaching of appropriate behaviours in the classroom and throughout the school community. We continue to work closely with families and the school based resource team to address social emotional issues and mental health. Our outside community agencies, such as Hollyburn Family Services, Child and Youth Mental Health (MCFD), and the Child and Adolescent Program through Vancouver Coastal Health have been very supportive of our students and families. Safety Plans are in place for our students exhibiting potentially unsafe behaviours, which address the needs of the students as well as ensure that staff address these needs in a proactive, consistent and supportive manner.</p> <p>There is a renewed focus on student empowerment with regards to safety and a school wide effort to teach the lagging skills students may have so they have the capacity to make safe and appropriate decisions. This focus will continue in the coming year.</p>

School Goals for 2015-2016:

Based on the review of student achievement using Provincial, District and school evidence, the goals set out in the Seymour Heights School Plan for 2015-2016 are:

- 1. To improve literacy skills of students identified as “at risk” or not yet meeting grade level expectations. (Communication competency – Thinking Competency)**
- 2. To increase students’ sense of safety, belonging and engagement K-7 with a focus on self regulation, students empowerment and outdoor learning. (Personal and Social Competency)**

School Goal 1:

To improve literacy skills of students identified as “at risk” or not yet meeting grade level expectations.

Goal Rationale:

Research consistently indicates that early intervention is one of the key factors for future academic success. It is acknowledged that students identified as “at risk” or below expectations for the age/grade in reading and writing would benefit in the long term from additional learning support and targeted strategies in the classroom. It was determined that students would continue to be identified and will be provided with additional learning support from classroom and learning assistance teachers. This goal is in alignment with the communication competency in the BC Education Plan.

Objective 1.1 To improve the reading performance of grade 1 students as measured by the DIBELS

Strategies/Structures/Resources:

Use the DIBELS test to assess students in fall of Grade 1 who:

- ~at the end of Kindergarten who were still below the 25th percentile of the June TOPA retest
- ~are referred by the teacher as performing at the “approaching expectations” level for reading during the Term 1 reporting period
- ~who are new to the school

Students who score below or well below benchmark on the DIBELS:

- ~receive additional support in reading through the LAC (Learning Assistance Centre)
- ~retested using the DIBELS in grade 2 in the Fall and early Spring

Focus on Home Reading Support

- ~teachers will continue to provide resources for home reading
- ~with the support of PAC, continue to invest in the online reading program RAZ-Kids to be used on iPads, classroom based computers and accounts for home use

Evidence: *(Quantitative)*

Key Performance Measure:	Baseline	Target	Actual
2015-2016 Percentage of grade 1 students who met reading readiness as defined by DIBELS	Fall 2015	10% increase	June 2016

Objective 1.2 To improve reading proficiency of students identified as being “at risk” in grade 4.

Strategies/Structures:

Use the Dibels to identify students who are need extra support

- ~these students will receive learning support in the classroom and if, required, additional LAC support

~use this data to inform teacher planning

Students who receive a mark of C/C- in reading during each reporting period

~these students will be provided with additional reading support through classroom instruction and LAC

LAC Support

~individualized or small group instruction and intervention programs for identified students will be provided

~IEPs and LAPs will continue to be developed to support students' academic needs and monitor student progress on individualized reading objectives

~iPad apps will be used to provide supplementary reading support

Evidence: *(Quantitative)*

Key Performance Measure:	Baseline	Target	Actual
DIBELS GRADE 4 % of students Meeting Expectations in reading	Fall 2015	Increase by 10%	June 2016
Key Performance Measure:	Baseline	Target	Actual
GRADE 4 % of students receiving a mark of A, B or C+ in Language Arts	Fall 2015	Increase by 10%	June 2016
Key Performance Measure:	Baseline	Target	Actual
DIBELS GRADE 5 % of students Meeting Expectations in reading	Fall 2015	Increase by 10%	June 2016
Key Performance Measure:	Baseline	Target	Actual
GRADE 5 % of students receiving a mark of A, B or C+ in Language Arts	Fall 2015	Increase by 10%	June 2016

Objective 1.3 To improve students' overall confidence and ability in writing in grade 3 and grade 6.

Strategies/Structures:

~increased focus on instructional practice of writing skills

~ongoing professional development for teachers in the area of writing (i.e. staff meetings, collaboration time)

~increased celebration and sharing of writing within the school community (i.e. bulletin boards, PA announcements – student sharing of writing)

~in-service for teachers on the use of Literacy 44 eBook and Writing 44

Evidence: *(Quantitative)*

Key Performance Measure:	Baseline	Target	Actual
2015 Grade 3 and 6 - % of students meeting expectations in writing based on the School Wide Write	92%	5% increase	Fall 2016

Evidence: *(Qualitative)*

Key Performance Measure:	Baseline	Target	Actual
--------------------------	----------	--------	--------

2015 Grade 3 and 6 - % of students reporting feeling confident in the area of writing: Survey data	81%	5% increase	Fall 2016
--	-----	-------------	-----------

School Goal 2:
To increase students' sense of safety, engagement and belonging K-7 with a focus on self-regulation, student empowerment and outdoor learning.

Goal Rationale:

This continues to be a goal for our 2015-2016 school year. If children feel safe and engaged in their learning then their own school experience is enhanced and success is increased. The BC Education Plan and the North Vancouver Strategic Plan highlight person and social competency as an important focus in addressing the needs of the whole child.

Objective 2.1 To increase the number of students who report that they take an active role in making their classroom or school a better place.

Strategies/Structures/Resources:

- ~we will continue with school-based opportunities for leadership including: lunch monitors, equipment monitors, safety patrol and a variety of student-led lunch clubs
- ~grade celebrations to promote student leadership at every grade level
- ~Student led assemblies
- ~students will take a greater leadership in environmental action: class responsibility for school grounds clean up, Adopt a Street program, Recycling, Waste Diversion
- ~students will take an active role in the celebration and use of our Outdoor Classroom
- ~each class has an active responsibility with our newly established learning gardens

Evidence: *(Quantitative)*

Key Performance Measure: BC Ministry of Education Satisfaction Survey: Percentage of students indicating "many times" or "all the time" in response to our focus question: "I take an active role to help make my classroom and school and better place."			
	Baseline	Target	Actual
2015 Satisfaction Survey	***		Spring 2016

Objective 2.2 To increase the number of students who report that they act in positive ways and make a safe environment.

Strategies/Structures/Resources:

- ~staff will continue to focus on school-wide strategies for self-regulation (i.e. Mind-up, music listening, in class sensory spaces)
- ~partnership with North Shore Restorative Justice to provide support in classes
- ~partnership with Parkgate to include
- ~continue to use the newly created 'calm room' for our students with special needs as well as other students needed regulation support
- ~continue to use common language at school (use of character education curriculum and teach students social skills (Superflex program) to develop empathy and perspective taking
- ~continued use of Tribes strategies
- ~focused counselling support for co-horts with mean behaviour and conflict
- ~Windsor Secondary leadership team to educate younger students on social media etiquette and safety

Evidence: (Quantitative)

Key Performance Measure: North Vancouver Safe and Caring School Survey: Percentage of students indicating “many times” or “ all the time” in response to our focus question:			
I have never or rarely experienced verbal or social bullying (exclusion, gossip, humiliation)			
	Baseline	Target	Actual
2015	78%	100%	
Key Performance Measure: North Vancouver Safe and Caring School Survey: Percentage of students indicating “many times” or “ all the time” in response to our focus question:			
I have never or rarely experienced physical bullying (hitting, kicking, punching, physical assault)			
	Baseline	Target	Actual
2015	89%	100%	
Key Performance Measure: North Vancouver Safe and Caring School Survey: Percentage of students indicating “many times” or “ all the time” in response to our focus question:			
I feel safe at school			
	Baseline	Target	Actual
2015	99%	100%	
Key Performance Measure: North Vancouver Safe and Caring School Survey: Percentage of students indicating “many times” or “ all the time” in response to our focus question:			
If I am bullied or see bullying take place, I would tell an adult			
	Baseline	Target	Actual
2015	85%	100%	

Key Performance Measure:			
Mean behaviour reported to administration			
	Baseline	Target	Actual
Office referrals	20	10% decrease of baseline	

Evidence: *(Qualitative)*

<p>Qualitative Baseline: (Spring 2015) Survey results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- What do you do when you see someone being bullied or interact with a mean person:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- "...tell my teacher" (grade 1)- "...talk to the aids" (grade 2)- "...tell my parents at home" (grade 4)- "...intervene and tell them to back off" (grade 6)- "...tell them they are not cool for bullying" (grade 7)
<p>Qualitative Target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- We will poll the students again in Spring 2016 and we will ask how the students can be proactively prevent mean behaviour in the school
<p>Qualitative Actual:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Spring 2016

Objective 2.3 To increase students' engagement and self-regulation through outdoor learning

Strategies/Structures/Resources:

- ~all staff and students will have access and use of our Outdoor Classroom
- ~each class with have an active responsibility with our newly established learning garden
- ~staff will get students outside for learning purposes 3-5 times per week to expand notions about learning "about" nature or "in" nature to learning "with" nature
- ~focus some collaboration times on outdoor activities as connected to the new curriculum
- ~teachers will rate well being and engagement at the beginning of the year and again in the spring~students will take an active role in the creation and celebration of our Outdoor Classroom (district approval – April 2014 to be built May/June 2014)
- ~each class with have an active responsibility with our newly established learning garden

Evidence: *(Qualitative)*

Key Performance Measure:	Baseline	Target	Actual
2015 Grade K-7 - # of students reporting feeling engaged and self-regulated when able to participate in outdoor learning	Fall 2015	5% increase	Fall 2016

Connections:

Connections to Family of School's School Plans and/or District Achievement Plan:

The BC Ministry of Education is in the process of finalizing the BC Education Plan. Moving forward, the Windsor Family of Schools (WFOS) will use the Cross Curricular Competencies (as

outlined in the BC Education Plan) as well as the NVSD Strategic Plan to frame our School Plan for the school year.

We share a common goal with WFOS in literacy (communication competency) and social emotional learning (personal and social competency). As the new curriculum becomes more of a reality within our school, we will frame our future goals to be in alignment with this framework, especially with regards to the core competencies.

Our plan aligns with the NVSD District Literacy Plan and the District Achievement contract. Our focus on Outdoor Learning as an objective is in alignment with the North Vancouver strategic plan.

Consultation Process of Seymour Heights School Planning Council:

- x School administrators, staff, parents and students have been actively involved in the development of the School Plan.

- x A summary of the approved Seymour Heights School Plan will be posted on the school web site by October 31, 2015.

School Planning Council Approval of Proposed School Plan:

Date: Thursday, May 8

	Name	Signature
Chairperson (Principal)	Chanin Smyth	<i>Original Document Signed by SPC Members</i>
Parent	Amanda Hauptman	
Parent	Laura Morrison	
Parent	Leslie Furstenwald	
Parent	Marnie Kushnerenko	

Board Approval of School Plan:

Approved by:

Pius Ryan, Assistant Superintendent
June 15, 2015