



ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE ARGYLE SECONDARY SCHOOL

1131 Frederick Road, North Vancouver, B.C. V7K 1J3 Tel: (604) 903-3300 FAX: (604) 903-3301

June 11th, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Re: Self-Assessment of the Core Competencies

Further to the information sent to families last month in the Superintendent's Report to Parents, I am writing to provide you with further information about accessing your child's Self-Assessment of the Core Competencies, or SACC.

The Core Competencies (*Thinking, Communication, and Personal/Social Responsibility*) are broad-based sets of proficiencies that enable students to engage in deep and life-long learning. <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/competencies>

Throughout this school year, students have identified and assessed their growth in relation to the Core Competencies. In May students in grades 8 to 11 completed a summative self-assessment during their period 6 class. The self-assessment is part of the revised curriculum and the 2018 graduation program. The work students do in grades 8 through 11 becomes the foundation for their final graduation Capstone Project. The SACC is a self-reflective document; although teachers do not assess the SACC they provide direction to students in terms of evidence that students may want to include in their reflection. Grade 12s completed the self-assessment as part of their Capstone Project in their Planning 12 class.

We encourage you to discuss the Self-Assessment process with your child by asking open-ended questions about their growth in relation to the Core Competencies. We encourage you to have a conversation with your child about "why" and "how" they generated their conclusions and how the evidence they chose supports their reflections. To assist parents, we have included question prompts for each of the Core Competencies.

Your child's Self-Assessment has been completed electronically and has been saved in their Portfolio on the NVSD Portal: <https://tinyurl.com/yb3wb7t6> Please ask your child to log in and share their reflection with you.

Thank you,

Kim Jonat
Principal

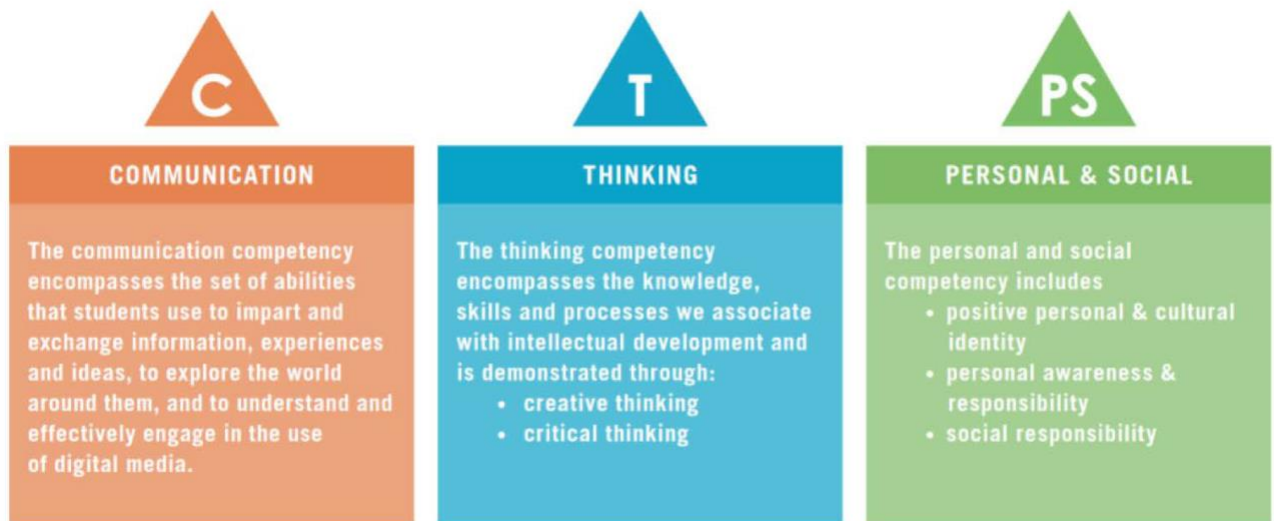
2019 Core Competencies Conversation Starters

What are the Core Competencies?

The Core Competencies are at the centre of the recent redesign of British Columbia's curriculum and assessment. Core Competencies are sets of intellectual, personal, social and emotional skills that all students need to develop in order to engage in deep and meaningful learning.

These competencies are not taught independently; they are integrated on a daily basis into teachers' lessons. The Core Competencies are embedded within the Big Ideas in all curricular areas and allow for students to develop and connect these key skills across all three areas.

The three Core Competencies are:



Over the past year, your child has been working on and thinking about their growth in the three overarching Core Competencies: Communication, Thinking, Personal and Social. In May, each student completed a self-assessment of their growth and progress in these three broad-based competencies. One of the ways parents can help students clarify their thinking about their individual profiles is through open-ended questions.

Below are some conversation starters parents can use to talk to their child about their core competency growth. *For further information about the competencies, please visit: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/competencies>.*

Parents can ask their child: “At school...”

Communication:

- ▶ What are some of the ways you like to show your learning?

Critical Thinking:

- ▶ How does your learning in _____ connect with what you have learned before? How has your thinking about _____ changed? What made it change?
- ▶ What strategies do you use to decide if you should believe something you read? How did you develop these strategies? What advice would you give to a younger student about figuring out what is true?

Creative Thinking:

- ▶ How do you come up with ideas when you want to make something new at school or at home?
- ▶ What makes you want to get new ideas or try something new?

Social Responsibility:

- ▶ What contribution have you made to our school that you feel good about? How did you get started doing that?

Positive and Personal Cultural Identity:

- ▶ What are your strengths as a learner and how do you learn best? What are some aspects that you value about your culture?
- ▶ How do you use your strengths and abilities in your family, relationships, and community?

Personal Awareness and Responsibility:

- ▶ Tell me about one of your learning goals. How did you come to choose that goal? Tell me about something you are doing to help you work on that goal.