Study Session
1/23/2024

VANCOUVER
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
VPS

Agenda

- Student Advisory Report
- Committee of the Whole Review
- E1: Early Learning (Daniel/Janell)
- C1: Increase family/community connection (Jessica)
- S3: PLC Impact (Jim)

Student Advisory

Taviyan Farni, Hudson's Bay
Ahlem Hammond, VSAA

Student Advisory – What have we been working on?

Belonging…
Making a difference…
Your voice matters!
Developing student leadership

✓ Set our district goal for belonging, 45%

✓ Set our school goals

❑ Take action - School Ideas

❑ Begin planning our leadership conference

Belonging Plan

District goal: improve 6-12 belonging score as measured by Panorama from 41% to
45%.

School goal: improve 6-12 belonging score as measured by Panorama from A% to B%.

Action steps you will be taking at your school:
- ❏ Educating students and staff about the Panorama survey, your goal, and helping everyone understand why it's important
- ❏ Participate in Panorama survey question review - spring 2024
- ❏ Connecting with the Student-Centered Equity Team at your school: communicating the goal and your ideas, how will you work together
  - ❏ Your idea Schools Ideas/Next Steps Doc
  - ❏ Your idea Schools Ideas/Next Steps Doc

Our Schools Ideas

VSAA:
★ Spend time explaining the purpose and intention of survey prior to giving it.
★ Plan more school-wide community building activities such as more multiple art form showcases
★ Continue to work on interpersonal and mental health impacts of the Pandemic

Hudson's Bay:

★ Increasing membership in school clubs
★ Increasing recognition of all students
★ Creating a welcoming committee

Other Schools

Columbia River - *Representatives from clubs and sports being available to talk about their experience with incoming students to try to encourage participation*

Fort - Make a school survey, just 3 questions

iTech - *Look at sense of belonging data and look at subgroups*

Flex - Bring in more community partners to run groups to support student needs (like we've done in years past)

Heights - Since Heights does not have a lot of extra-curricular activities or clubs and our schedules are so varied, we could connect with community members (PFLAG, NAACP, LAMDA to see if they can come and support students)

Skyview - Increasing cultural awareness such as having a cultural assemble.

Questions?

Our Vision of a Graduate

Vancouver Public Schools Graduates have the **core knowledge and life-ready skills to meet the real-world demands** of their chosen next step.

Our graduates are **curious learners who can persevere and adapt** to changing conditions. They are **effective communicators** who work independently or in collaboration with others in search of informed solutions to complex problems.

Whether entering the workforce, trade programs, and/or higher education, VPS graduates are **compassionate and inclusive human beings** who will positively influence their local and global community while consistently acting with integrity.

Student Centered Experience

2023-24 Workplan: Early Learning

Student-Centered Experience

VISION: Design learning experiences that **motivate each student to realize their potential and love for learning**. Students see themselves **represented, supported and loved through engaging instruction, curriculum, and our high expectations** for their ongoing success towards our vision of a VPS graduate and beyond.

Develop/sustain a culture of belonging, safety, and positive student-staff relationships

- E1c. Strengthen support provided to students and families for transitions through grade levels, schools and graduation.
  - Continue to increase access and inclusion for Early Learners in preparation for their K-12 experience
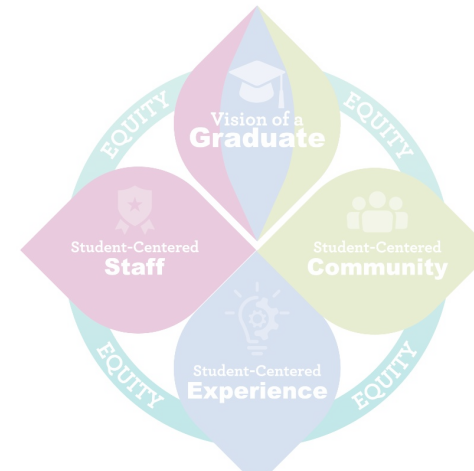
Five Year Vision

To have **Transitional Kindergarten and a continuum of preschool opportunities** for all students to realize their potential and love of learning.

Why

When a student is provided with high quality early learning opportunities this supports the groundwork for a child's academic success moving forward in the K-12 system.

Access to early learning helps level the playing field for children from diverse backgrounds.

By providing access to quality early learning opportunities, children who attend preschool are more likely to perform higher academically in later years.

Why

By providing families with opportunities for early learning and encouraging parental involvement this will support their child's learning journey. This engagement fosters a collaborative environment between educators and parents, ensuring continuity in a child's learning and development.

When parents are provided with the opportunities to participate in early learning with their student, this is the first step in addressing disparities in access and benefit to their child's education. When all children have access to quality early learning, regardless of background, it helps build a more equitable educational system to ensure all students have access to the vision of a VPS graduate.

2023-24 Expected Measurable Outcomes

Show growth progress on our Child Outcome Summary Exit Data for all students exiting early childhood special education.

Increase enrollment to programs that support the transition into the K-12 system.

Increase the number of students ready for kindergarten as measured by TS Gold (WaKIDS).

Current Enrollment

Early Learning Programs	Enrollment
Transitional Kindergarten (TK)	180
Kindergarten Jump Start	804
Evening Preschool	99*
Inclusion Preschool	194
Early Childhood Special Education Self-Contained (ECSE)	115
Early Entrance to Kindergarten (EEK)	5

Progress Monitoring

Transitional Kindergarten

- TK serves children in our district who have not had access to early learning and/or who show through a screening process they would benefit from additional preparation prior to kindergarten

- TK uses a play-based curriculum where children have the opportunity to learn through exploration & discovery during both indoor & outdoor play time

- TK teachers use developmentally appropriate practices to expose students to basic components of literacy, mathematics, & social/emotional learning

	Number of TK classes	VPS Schools with TKs	Total Children served
2019/20	1	1	17
2020/21	1	1	17
2021/22	3	2	50
2022/23	5	4	90
2023/24	10	7	180

Progress Monitoring

ECSE & Inclusive Preschool

- Increased initial evaluations completed by Early Learning Clinic.
- Increased continuum of preschool opportunities
- All preschool students are assessed using the TS Gold developmental rubric (WaKIDS)

|	Initial Evals	# of PK Students Served	# of PK Sessions
2019-20	155	128	12 ECSE sessions 4 sessions of Co-taught sessions 25 community preschoolers
2020-21	162	221	12 ECSE sessions 6 TITLE inclusion sessions 13 community preschoolers
2021-22	230	207	16 ECSE sessions 8 inclusion sessions
2022-23	270	262	10 ECSE sessions 12 inclusion sessions

Progress Monitoring

VPS Early Learning Data (WaKIDS)

Early Learning WaKIDS data for Fall/Winter 2023						
	Social/Emotional Domain	Physical Domain	Language Domain	Cognitive Domain	Literacy Domain	Mathematics Domain
TK students	63%	88%	75%	62%	84%	56%
Inclusion/ECSE students	27%	62%	39%	42%	35%	27%

Summative Report

- Early Learning programs are thriving in VPS as evidenced by the increase in access for all students.

- Our Early Childhood Evaluation Center has had a 45% growth in referrals this school year.

- VPS will be opening an additional special education preschool classroom this 2023-2024 school year.

- VPS continues to do the work to expand inclusive opportunities for all preschool students.

- Based on the current early learning programs and compiled data, we propose sunsetting the VPS Early Entrance to Kindergarten (EEK) program in our district.
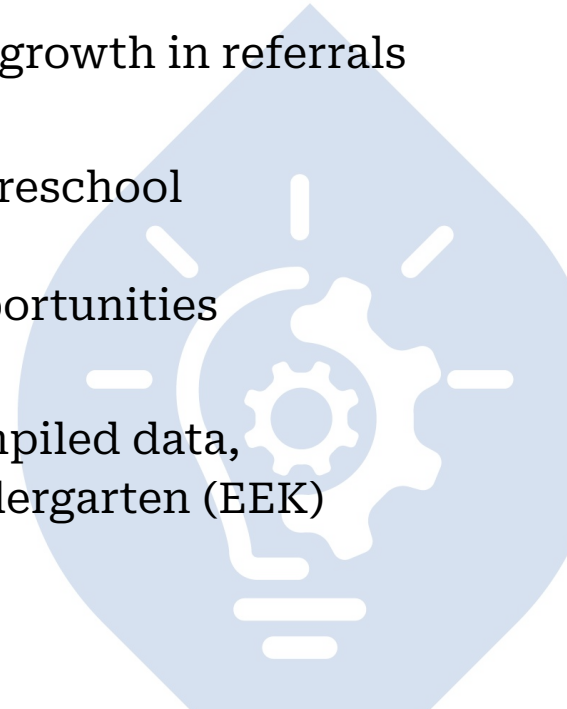
Next Steps

- Create an Annual Early Learning Report

- Propose change to the Qualification of Attendance and Placement Policy 3110 to reflect the discontinuation of Early Entrance Kindergarten
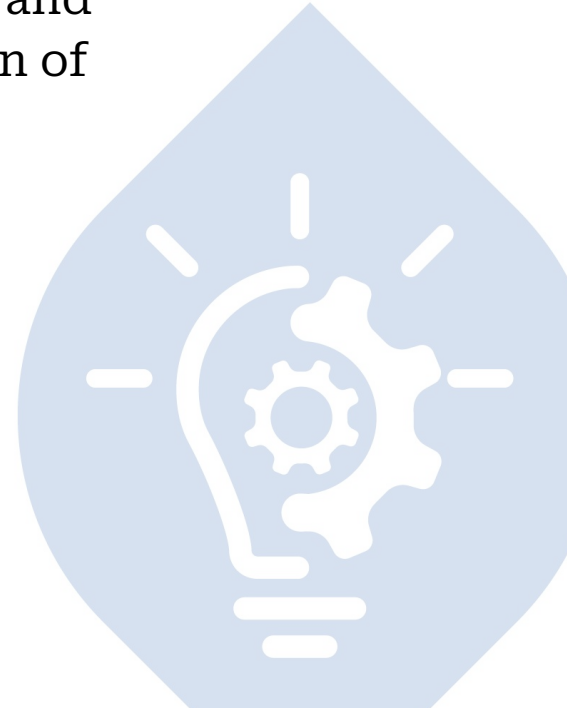
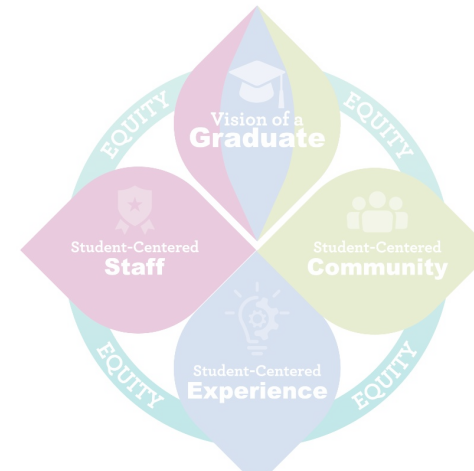# **Student Centered Community**

Goal 1

Student-Centered Community

VISION: Increase family and community trust, connection, and partnership to ensure each student can thrive in their journey towards our vision of a VPS graduate. Partner with families and community to help **determine and deliver needed access and support** for our students.

C1. Increase family and community member connection with the school district and/or individual schools.

Student-Centered Community

For school year 2023-24, the communications department continues its focus on communications strategy. All of our work is focused on establishing strong 2-way communications with our families, students and staff.

Our key approach will be centering how our community wants to receive information by strategically defining:
- Target audience
- Tactic goals (action/feeling/knowledge)
- Most appropriate method/tactic
- Timing

23-24 Major Initiatives

ParentSquare

In August 2023, we launched new communication platform with modern tools that facilitate 2-way communications and offer immediate translations.

Strategic Plan

Design and introduce the final Strategic Plan and new VPS mission statement to our internal and external audiences.

Social Media Strategy

Over the summer, we developed a social media strategy that we implemented this fall. We established a social media mission statement and better defined the VPS social media voice and tone.

Choices Program Support

In December 2023, we launched updated Secondary Choice program pages, that focus on the reasons a student will benefit from these programs as well as the opportunities they will have upon graduation.

IN PROGRESS/UPCOMING LAUNCHES: Dual-Language Support, Kindergarten Enrollment and Elementary Options Awareness Campaign, Budget Communications

Social Media

VPS social media builds **community, belonging and pride** in the district by providing **authentic and engaging** content that makes our families feel **secure, proud and confident** in their decision to have their students attend our schools.

Measuring Results

Social Media

25k Followers

↗ **1.5k more** than 2022-23

440k Page/Profile Impressions

↗ **65% more** than 2022-23

335 Posts

↗ **58.8% more** than 2022-23

663 Comments

↗ **268% more** than 2022-23

↗ **5.71% engagement rate**

Metrics compare 8/1/23-12/31/23 to 8/1/22-12/31/22

What's working?

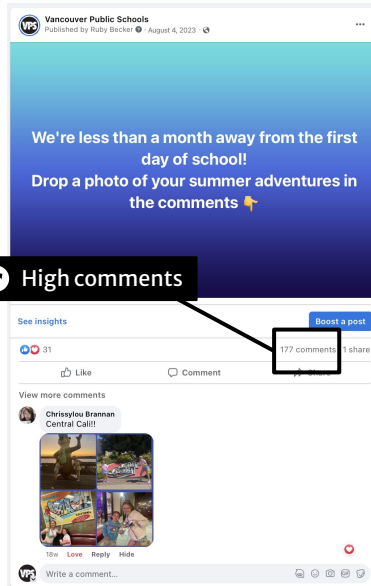**Short-form video content**

Favored by algorithm, reaches new audiences

Crowdsourcing content

Boosts engagement metrics, builds community with current and former families
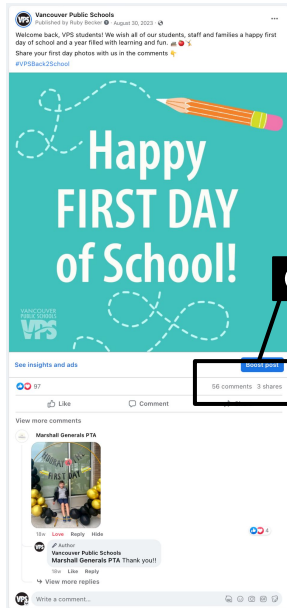
Celebrating success in the classroom and beyond

Builds pride in the district

GRAD WALK

▶ 11.5K

WA APotY

▶ 5,888

FIRST DAY

SUMMER FUN

High comments

EISENHOWER 1st PLACE

High comments, likes and shares

11.5k views
(7.3k views were non-followers)
711 likes
54 shares

5.9k views
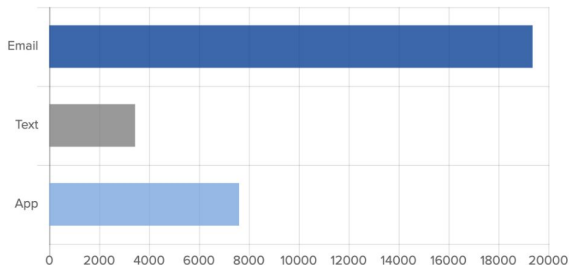*(1.2k were non-followers)*
238 likes
22 shares
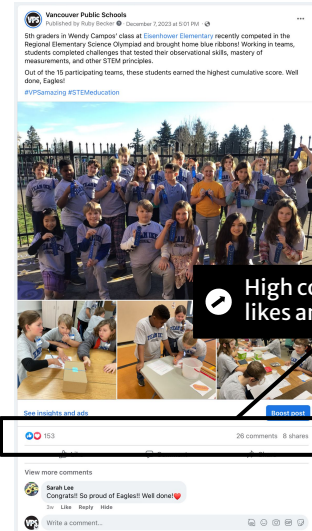
ParentSquare

With ParentSquare we can see how parents have chosen to receive messages

REACH & DELIVERABILITY

REACH METHODS

EMAIL
19,690 (87%) Parents with emails
19,371 (86%) Opted to receive emails
■ 19,371 (86%) Receiving emails
■ 0 (0%) Failed emails

APP
8,566 (38%) Parents with app
■ 7,611 (34%) Receiving notifications

TEXT
21,909 (97%) Parents with phones
3,440 (15%) Opted to receive texts
■ 3,440 (15%) Receiving texts
■ 0 (0%) Failed texts

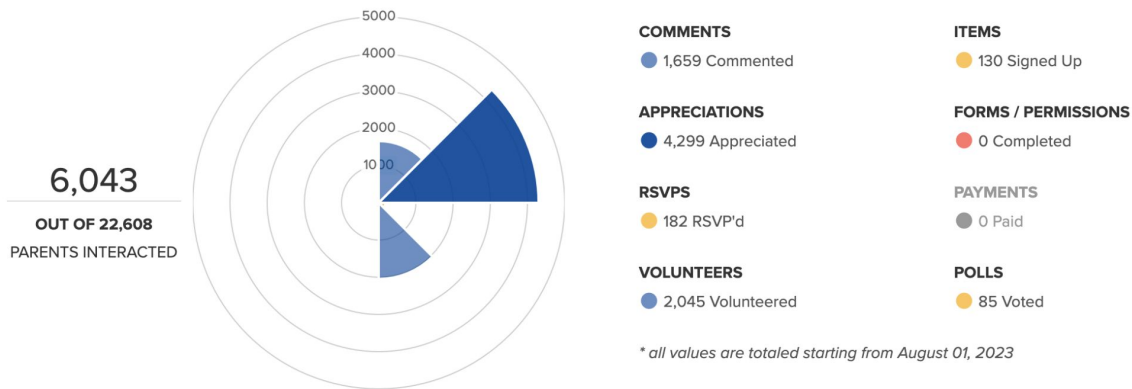* all percentages are out of the total 22,608 parents in the District

54.81% of families are registered

38% of staff and parents are using the ParentSquare app

ParentSquare

ParentSquare has increased our engagement and made 2-way communication with families possible

INTERACTION

6,043
OUT OF 22,608
PARENTS INTERACTED

5000
4000
3000
2000
1000

COMMENTS
● 1,659 Commented

APPRECIATIONS
● 4,299 Appreciated

RSVPS
● 182 RSVP'd

VOLUNTEERS
● 2,045 Volunteered

ITEMS
● 130 Signed Up

FORMS / PERMISSIONS
● 0 Completed

PAYMENTS
● 0 Paid

POLLS
● 85 Voted

* all values are totaled starting from August 01, 2023

27% of families have interacted with a post or direct message

Across the district there have been 8,379 posts and 183,357 direct messages sent
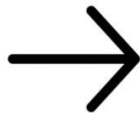
Transitional Kindergarten

GOAL: Make parents aware of transitional kindergarten and get them to complete the application process

AUDIENCE: Parents with children aged 4

TACTICS

- Multilingual Posters on elementary school doors
- News post *(1 post, 722 views)*
- Webpage *(2,567 views)*
- Dedicated email
- *VPS now* newsletter
- Social media *(2 posts, 5,450 views)*

RESULTS

- **Two times the amount of interest** versus last year.
- **Expanded number of classrooms** from 5 to 10.

Choices Programs

GOAL: Increase awareness of Choices available. Share the benefits of enrolling in Choice Programs and Schools to increase the number of applications submitted by families across the district and to drive participation in half-day trades programs.

AUDIENCE: VPS parents and students in grades 5-11

TACTICS

- More consistent and scannable materials
- New website landing page *(978 views since 10/6/23)*
- New website pages for individual programs *(921 views)*
- Social Media
- One-page printed flyers to share at open houses
- Postcard mailed to 9,500 families

RESULTS

- **To be determined**
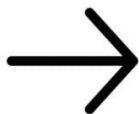
5th Grade Music Program

GOAL: Inform parents of 5th grade instrumental programs - band and orchestra and encourage them to complete an application.

AUDIENCE: Parents of students in 5th grade

TACTICS

- ParentSquare email with clear call-to-action and deadline

→

RESULTS

- 400 students enrolled, **twice the number of students** who participated last year
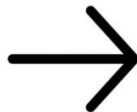
After-School Dance Program

GOAL: Inform parents of an opportunity for their student to participate in after-school dance programs

AUDIENCE: Parents of students in grades 3-8

TACTICS

- ParentSquare email with clear call-to-action and deadline

→

RESULTS

Before the email was sent on Dec. 4, there were 10 registered students. Almost immediately after the email was sent, hundreds of registrations began coming in. The total **number of applications completed was 395, more than double the registrations we typically receive**.

(We were unable to add classes due to budget constraints so there is a long waiting list.)
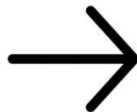
Family Advisory Committee

GOAL: Establish a family advisory group of approx. 24 families from diverse backgrounds. (In previous years it had been difficult to find participants.)

AUDIENCE: All VPS families

TACTICS

- ParentSquare email with clear call-to-action and deadline

→

RESULTS

Received **more than 160 applications** - last year BlackBoard and traditional email outreach left us calling families directly asking them to participate
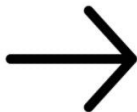
CEP Forms

GOAL: Get parents to complete the income survey that helps determine funding for free and reduced lunches, Title I and LAP.

AUDIENCE: All VPS families

TACTICS

- ParentSquare email with clear call-to-action, reasoning and deadline
- Follow-up email to parents who still had not completed the survey

→

RESULTS

Prior to sending a ParentSquare email, but following a Blackboard message over the summer, 400 applications had been completed. **After the PSQ email was sent, 3,000 surveys were completed within two hours.** Following an email reminder, the total surveys completed **rose to 4,000.**

Student-Centered Staff

VISION

Advance each student on their journey towards our vision of a VPS graduate through **a diverse and skilled workforce** that reflects our student population. **Develop a culture of belonging** by honoring the unique gifts of each student in an inclusive and inspiring learning community with both physical and emotional safety.

Goal #1

District staff will help develop and participate in rich, relevant, and meaningful professional learning that supports each student through the vision of a graduate and related policies.

Goal #2

Invest in systems and resources to increase, retain and promote a workforce that reflects our student population and whose practices align with our district's mission and goals.

Goal #3

Utilize the professional learning community model as a vehicle for focusing on learning as our fundamental purpose through a culture of collaboration that results in measurable increases in student learning.
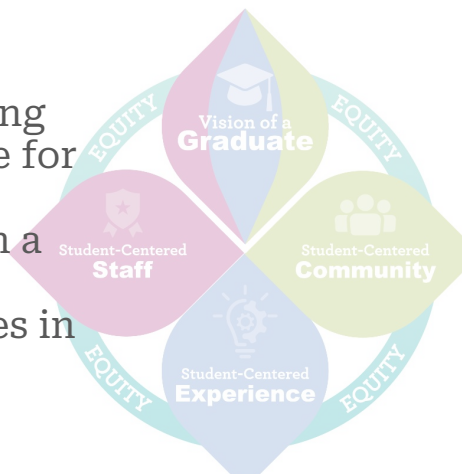
Student-Centered Staff

Workplan

Student-Centered Staff

VISION: Advance each student on their journey towards our vision of a VPS graduate through **a diverse and skilled workforce that reflects our student population.** Develop a **culture of belonging** by honoring the unique gifts of each student in an **inclusive and inspiring learning community with both physical and emotional safety.**

S3. Utilize the professional learning community model to <u>focus on learning</u> as our fundamental purpose through a <u>culture of collaboration</u> that results in <u>measurable increases in student learning</u>.
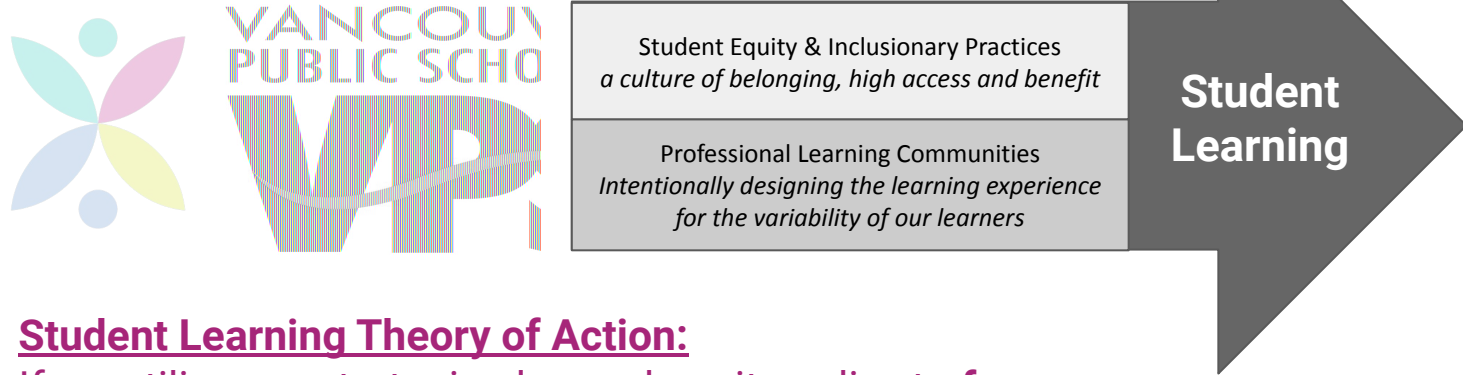
Five Year Vision

Vancouver Public Schools will be a **high functioning professional learning community** that will graduate all students **career and college ready, prepared to contribute to their community**.

The Guiding Coalition will monitor impact to student learning and recommend next steps related to professional learning, instruction, curriculum and assessment.

In order for each student to realize the vision of a graduate and our equity mission, we need to hold ourselves accountable to strong and consistent learning experiences across our district.

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Student Equity & Inclusionary Practices
a culture of belonging, high access and benefit

Professional Learning Communities
Intentionally designing the learning experience for the variability of our learners

Student Learning

Student Learning Theory of Action:
If we utilize our strategic plan and equity policy to **focus**,
and the professional learning community process to **do**;
we will collectively **grow** in our practice, and student learning and the student experience will be positively **impact**ed.

5, 4, 3….. becoming a Professional Learning Community

VPS Mission, Vision, Shared Commitments and Norms

4 Essential Teams of a Professional Learning Community

1. Superintendent/Board of Directors
2. VPS Guiding Coalition
3. Building Guiding Coalitions
4. Collaborative Teams (Previously PLCs)

3 Big Ideas of a Professional Learning Community

1. Focus on Student Learning

2. Shared Commitment and Collective Responsibility (A culture of collaboration.)

3. Focus on Outcomes (DATA and Goals)

2023-24 Expected Measurable Outcomes

Each Building Guiding Coalition will complete a Mission, Vision, Shared Commitments, Norms

Guaranteed & Viable Curriculum: Teacher driven Prioritized Standards Survey

Recalibrated 5 Year Implementation Plan

Data Analysis Protocol and Bias training (2/22/2024)

Assessment Review Process (Spring 2024)

Two-way communication system between the Four Essential Teams

Creating Sustainable Systems

- 8 Hour Training on 11/2/2023
- Focus on Mission, Vision, Shared Commitments and Norms w/ Solution Tree trainer
- Nuts and Bolts Presentation
  - Thought Exchange tool used as a feedback tool
- Facilitated discussion by level as an ongoing communication process
  - What is going well?
  - What supports are needed?

Summative Report

- Student achievement and experiential data as a measure of student success
  - Panorama
  - iReady
  - SBA
  - WIDA-Access (state multilingual assessment)
  - Discipline
  - Attendance
  - Least Restrictive Learning Environments

The Guiding Coalition will monitor impact to student learning and recommend next steps related to professional learning, instruction, curriculum and assessment
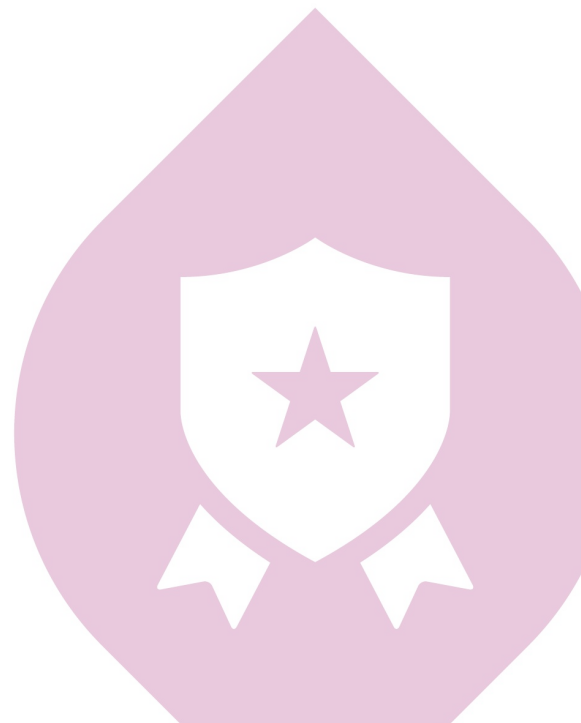
Next Steps

- Guiding Coalitions continue to model collaborative systems
- Leverage the 5 Commitments, 4 Essential Teams and 3 Big ideas to drive the work:
  - Multi-Tiered Systems of Support
  - Universal Design for Learning (example co-teaching in multilingual/special support services)
  - Sense of Belonging
  - Student Experience
  - Equity Policy

(*LINK*)