



# Student-Centered Experience



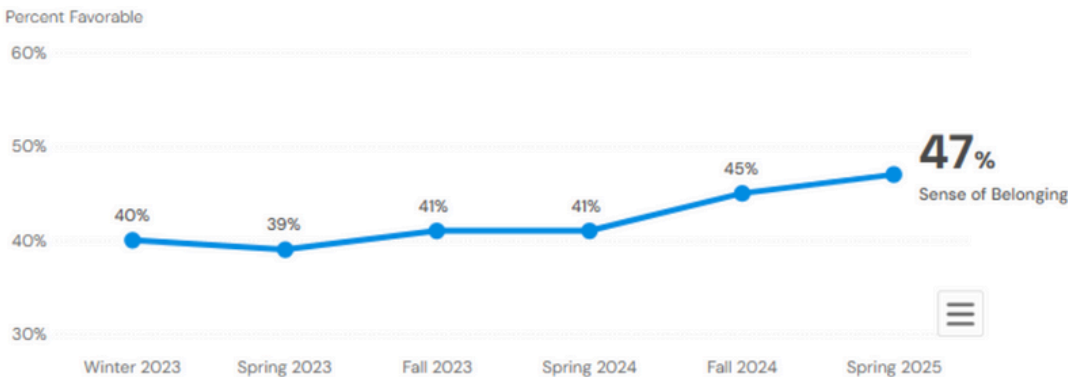
**GOAL:** Develop/sustain a culture of belonging, safety and positive student-staff relationships.

## Building Belonging at School

### PANORAMA SURVEY RESULTS - Sense of Belonging (Grades 6-12)

How much students feel that they are valued members of the school community.

#### How have results changed over time?



**Gain of 8% since Spring 2023**

Based on 7,803 responses

These results put VPS in the 70<sup>th</sup> percentile for high schools nationally.

### Snapshot: Thomas Jefferson Middle School

**59% of 6th graders report a strong sense of belonging**

#### KEY STRATEGIES THAT ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE:

- **Creating Spaces for Connection:** Providing opportunities for students to connect with peers who share similar backgrounds and experiences.
- **Inclusive Social and Extracurricular Activities:** Hosting student socials during the school day ensures all students can participate, removing barriers like after-school commitments. Numerous intramural activities offer diverse opportunities for students to get involved based on their interests.
- **Building Community from Day One:** Improved welcome activities like "6th Grade Kick Start" are designed to build a strong sense of belonging

### Student Advisory

Student Advisory offers an opportunity for students from across the district to come together to reflect on their experiences, engage in meaningful discussions, and workshop ideas to make our schools better for everyone.

#### RECENT UPDATES:

- **Belonging Intervention:** Intentional learning opportunities for students and staff to focus on belonging.
- **Student Leadership Summit:** Engaged 100+ students district-wide to ramp up work for the next school year.





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## Building Skills, Building Futures: CTE at VPS

### INVESTING IN THE TRADES:

### New Trades Buildings on Hudson's Bay and Fort Vancouver Campuses

Vancouver Public Schools' Career and Technical Education (CTE) is building pathways for students to thrive in vital industries like manufacturing, construction, and other skilled trades. New buildings are being added to several school campuses, significantly expanding our CTE program offerings. These developments are made possible by community donors, who partnered with the Foundation for VPS to **fully fund** these state-of-the-art facilities.

This expansion will help us realize our vision: *Develop programing, in partnership with local employers and associations, to train students for entry level jobs upon graduation and completion of our CTE programs.*



**Lynch Advanced Manufacturing Building**  
(Fort Vancouver) - under construction  
**Endeavour Technical Trades Building**  
(Hudson's Bay)

### Mentoring the Next Generation

VPS trades students brought their tools and expertise to elementary schools to build toolboxes side-by-side with younger students. This year alone, over 600 4/5th grade students have each built their own toolbox.



### CTE PROGRAM EXPANSION:

**2017**  
30 students

**2025-26**  
450 students enrolled in 5 buildings

### Career Ready

Trades students joined peers from across the region at CTE's "Grade 13" event, connecting with local employers to learn about immediate job opportunities and high-demand skilled trades careers.



**BY THE NUMBERS:**

**400+ interviews** AND **~200 follow-ups**

This year, **over 20 students** placed in a paid work experience with a local employer

