

Community school model

Students

- Elementary students are accessing programs after school
- Youth are more engaged in after school programs
- Some students are not able to participate in after school programs due to bussing back to their homes
- Greater adult participation in recreation and literacy programs for students
- More opportunities for students to connect with community
- More opportunities for community to connect with students
- Opportunities for outdoor and Indigenous Education

Staff

- Staff are engaged and have choice to volunteer and/or facilitate after school programs
- Schools can act as the Hub of the community and are supported by staff
- Increased choice and opportunity in ways staff can connect with community
- Reciprocal connection between staff and community
- Need for understanding how community schools can increase learning for students

Schools

- Schools presently operate many aspects of a community school
- Schools want to partner with community and be more accessible to community groups
- Schools are a point of contact with many community organizations
- Schools are looking for contribution by community groups to support student learning
- Increase cost of operating schools in the evenings and weekends
- More requests for programs in the evenings and on weekends

Community school model cont...

Community

- A clear definition of what a Community School is required to provide understanding
- Community groups and organizations are requesting more access to the school
- Lack of funds for community groups is a growing barrier to access space in schools
- Buildings are equipped for community usage (space)
- School District has long-standing partnerships in each school for community usage

Technology

- Increased community access to technology
- Increased opportunities for adults and seniors learning in schools
- Opportunity for new ways of sharing and learning about technology
- Increase use of technology to share knowledge and increase connections in community and across communities in the district

Environment

- Creative environmental practices would occur
- Increased use of local resources in the District
- Increased local food production via school gardens & small farms
- Exploring diversified funding sources for outside users
- Schools are sites to engage in “green” initiatives

Elements of Community Schools in British Columbia

Community School Threads

Community Development

Community development is a process where community members come together to resolve community issues, develop capacity and mobilize community resources. Through a more collaborative method of planning and decision-making, the community is strengthened and community well-being is developed. Community schools help communities obtain, strengthen, and maintain the ability to set and achieve their own collective objectives.

Lifelong Learning

Lifelong learning is all learning that is pursued throughout life with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and competences. It is flexible, diverse and available at different times and in different places. Community schools create opportunities and remove barriers to learning, moving beyond the boundaries of traditional schooling.



Social & Emotional Learning

Social and emotional learning is the process through which individuals develop the skills, attitudes and values necessary to recognize and manage one's own emotions and to recognize emotions in others. It includes working well with others and forming positive relationships, identifying and solving problems, being able to feel sympathy and empathy for others, and help-seeking and help-giving behaviours. Community schools develop and nurture social and emotional capacity in their students, families and community members.

Health & Wellness

Health is a state of physical, emotional, mental and social well-being. Wellness is a conscious, lifelong process of becoming aware of choices and making decisions towards a more balanced, healthy and fulfilling life. Community schools empower students, families and community members to pursue both their own health and the collective well-being.