

Sparwood Secondary School (SSS)

Growth Plan

2021/2022 to 2026/2027

(2022/2023 Edition)

Our school growth plan is a six (6) year living document.



CONTEXT: SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Sparwood, population of 4 100, is situated in the Southeastern region of British Columbia. Sparwood's economy is based on a vibrant open pit mining network of 4 mines, which deliver coal to many domestic and foreign markets including Asia, Europe, and South America.

Sparwood Secondary School (SSS) has a student population of approximately 300 students and a staff of 42. SSS is known as an academic school as well as a school with a passion for athletics. A variety of academic programs are offered, as well as many practical and fine-arts electives. SSS supports students with a variety of needs through Aboriginal Support (cultural and academic), Alternate Education, and Student Services programs.

SCHOOL GOALS

Goal 1 - Numeracy Action Plan:

Improve student numeracy through a grade 8 numeracy support block. Challenge each teacher to incorporate numeracy in their discipline.

Goal 2 - Human and Social

Development: Increase students feelings of welcome, connectedness, and belonging to the school community.

STAKEHOLDERS

The following stakeholders were engaged in the development of the SSS Growth Plan:

1. School staff
2. Aboriginal Education Support Worker
3. Students (Student Council)
4. Parents (Parent Advisory Committee)
5. Trustee
6. School District Management

FLAVOUR OF THE SCHOOL - SPARTANS

- Understands the success of the educational process depends on a deep belief in , and a commitment to, ensuring students can learn
- Recognizes the value of project based learning
- Acknowledges the importance of Inquiry Based Learning
- Understands that numeracy is cross curricular
- Values student connectedness and engagement
- Recognizes the need for personalized learning and is exploring how digital media and technology can help to differentiate instruction and meet the needs of all student learners
- Recognizes the importance and need to focus on socialization of students as well as intellectual development
- Values social-emotional learning as part of a fundamental skill set students need to lead a happy and healthy life
- Continually strives to develop teacher collegiality, reflective practice, and collaborative planning

Goal 1: Numeracy - Strategy

- **Pre-data** collection from a grade 7, cohort wide, Wechsler Fundamentals: Academic Skills - Canadian (WF:AS CDN) - Numerical Operations (math skill). **Post-data** collected from a grade 8, cohort wide, locally developed numerical operations assessment (math skill).
- **Pre-data:** Grade 8 Numeracy Assessment. **Post-data:** Grade 8 Numeracy Assessment
- **Grade 8 Numeracy Support** class for entire cohort.
- Committing to a **numeracy project in each course.**

Goal 1: Numeracy - Outcomes

Did specific timetable-based interventions improve core math skills relative to the population benchmark:

Pre-data WF:AS Core Math Skills of grade 7 cohort population vs. population standard. These students were targeted by a Numeracy Support program. **Post-data** standardized assessment will be given looking for improvement in population-normed scores. **Target = Statistically significant improvement in core math skills.**

Did implementing a Numeracy Support program improve student achievement as assessed by the numeracy team in accordance with the new provincial language?

Pre-data numeracy assessment based around the standards of proficiency described by BC Education. **Post-data** numeracy assessment based around the standards of proficiency described by BC Education. **Target = Show statistically significant population improvement (grade 8 students) with 60% of students measuring proficient or better in numeracy assessment.**

Target = 40% of grade 12s enrolled in a math 12 elective.

Target = Indigenous numeracy data on par with non-Indigenous students.

Goal 2: Human and Social Development - Strategy

- Monthly school wide activities
- Peer mentoring
- Building *Habits of Character*
- Developing a *Portrait of a Grad*
- Promote shared understandings and a common vision
- Encourage all staff and students to become crew with no passengers
- Ensure each student is known well by at least one adult in the building

Goal 2: Human and Social Development - Outcome

Did targeted school activities promoting collaboration among students and students and staff result in a feeling of being part of the "crew" of SSS?

Target = 5% point growth year over year:

- **Do You feel welcome at your school?**
- **Is school a place where you feel you belong?**



Grade 7/8 Pre and Post Data on Core Math Operations Target = Meets Expectations

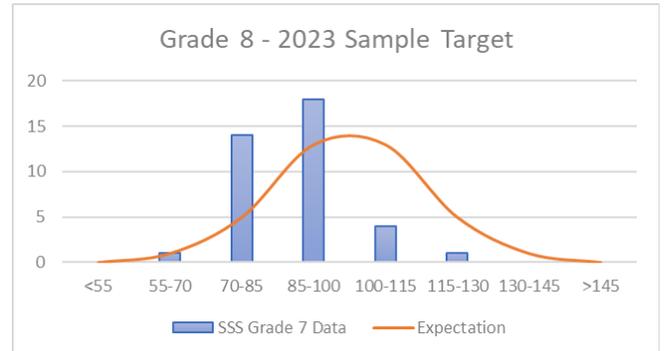
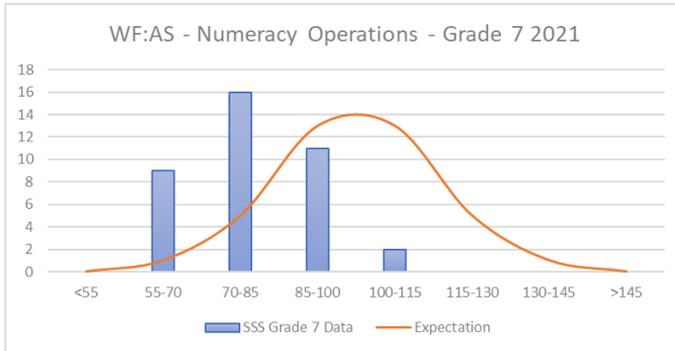


Figure: The January administration of the WF:AS measures core math skills of the Grade 7 students. A second assessment completed one year later will allow us to measure improvement in student achievement (relative to a standard) via paired t-test. In the case of the Grade 7 class of 2022 [data on left] we hope the steps we've taken to support core math skills will show a statistically significant effect size of 0.3 [target on right].



% of students scoring Proficient or Higher on Grade 8 Numeracy Assessment		
Year	Pre	Post
2022/23	12.5%	
2023/24		
2024/25		
2025/26		
2026/27		
2027/28		

% of Grade 12's with a Math Elective:	
Target = 40%	
Year	% of Grade 12s
2021/22	3%
2022/23	37%
2023/24	
2024/25	
2025/26	
2026/27	
2027/28	



HUMAN AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Student Learning Survey - Grade 7							
Question	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Do You feel welcome at your school?	42%						
Is school a place where you feel you belong?	24% 23%(I)						
I = Indigenous							

School Growth Plan Success

As this is a living document, visual evidence of success will be added throughout the year.



Consideration for the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action in the SSS School Growth Plan

Within our growth plan, we will continue to strive to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action. We will also continue to deepen the understanding of First Peoples' history and perspective through a vibrant and current offering of numeracy learning opportunities from the First Peoples' perspective. Data will be collected and learning advised based on the study of results from Indigenous sub-category of SSS student results. Leadership opportunities and character development will be developed and presented with an eye towards inclusiveness and consideration of Indigenous perspectives.

Strategic Engagement

The School Growth Plan will remain a monthly agenda item on the staff meeting. Indigenous learner data will be reviewed continuously with the Aboriginal Education Support Worker. Human and social development of students will be a focus of school and Parent Advisory Committee collaboration. Student Council will be actively engaged in peer to peer mentoring and collaboration with reflection on the success of activities. Grade 7 FSA data will be used to guide grade 8 numeracy support. Data will be updated throughout the year and the School Growth Plan will be treated like a living document.

Professional Development

- *Sparta Notes* - weekly newsletter with school pedagogy/culture communication
- Professional Development on supporting Numeracy
- Staff collaboration on supporting students to feel welcome, connected, and belonging to the community of Sparwood Secondary School

