

Spencer 2025-26 School Plan

School Context:

Spencer Middle School, located on Coast Salish land in Langford, serves over 650 students and is guided by the core values of **Empathy, Honesty, Kindness, and Respect**. Our diverse student population speaks more than 25 languages, and we foster belonging through inclusive practices like cross-grade “Family” groups named in English and SENĆOTEN.

Our school priorities include strengthening connection and belonging, improving literacy and numeracy, and advancing justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion. Strong partnerships with community organizations and rich extracurricular offerings—including over 25 clubs and vibrant arts and athletics—support student engagement and success.

Goal #1: Foster a strong sense of belonging, connection, and resiliency within the Spencer community by creating supportive relationships, encouraging well-being, and nurturing a culture of care.

Student & Family-Friendly Version: *We want everyone at Spencer to feel like they belong and are part of a caring school. We will build strong relationships, help each other feel safe and supported, and learn how to bounce back when things are tough.*

Actions/Strategies:

- **Culturally Responsive and Inclusive Practices:**
Implement culturally responsive pedagogy and land-based learning to promote belonging and reflect the identities and experiences of all learners.
- **Attendance Support and Monitoring:**
Develop and maintain a monthly attendance tracking system; identify students needing support and implement proactive outreach strategies.
- **Expanded Learning Opportunities:**
Offer diverse and inclusive extracurricular, outdoor and experiential learning opportunities, clubs, guest speakers, and cultural events that engage students beyond the classroom.
- **Representation and Celebration of Diversity:**
Use visual displays, student initiatives, commemorations, recognition and celebrations to highlight the cultural and personal identities that make up the Spencer community. Encourage a culture of recognition and appreciation.

Data/Evidence of Impact:

- Improved student attendance over time.

- Equity and inclusion data from the Equity Scan, Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI), and student surveys.
- Reduction in reported incidents of racism and discrimination (both witnessed and experienced).
- Increased student reports of having multiple positive adult connections at school.
- Increased connectedness across grade levels.
- Adults feel psychologically safe to engage in deep conversations and discussions.

Goal #2: Strengthen reading comprehension across curricular areas by implementing inclusive, culturally responsive, and evidence-based literacy practices that support the diverse needs of all learners.

Student & Family-Friendly Version: *We want to help all students get better at understanding what they read in every subject. We will use different strategies, interesting books, and fun activities so everyone feels confident and successful with reading.*

Actions/Strategies:

- **Sustain and Deepen Engagement in the Literacy Project**
Continue collaboration with district Curriculum Transformation Department and align instruction with best practices identified in the project.
- **Focus on Reading Fluency and Comprehension:**
Implement strategies such as partner reading, paragraph shrinking, and scaffold reading instruction across all curricular areas to build fluency and comprehension simultaneously.
- **Collaboration and Growth of Reading Culture**
Collaborate with teacher-librarians and Learning Support Teachers to co-plan and co-teach literacy-rich lessons, foster a school-wide reading culture through equitable access to texts, support family literacy events, and engage caregivers to support reading at home.
- Integrate Indigenous texts, First Peoples Principles of Learning into literacy instruction.
- Foster a school-wide reading culture through book clubs, reading challenges, and family literacy events.
- Engage caregivers with strategies and resources to support reading at home.
- **Universal Screening and Targeted Intervention:**
Conduct [school-wide] literacy assessments (e.g. Oral Reading Fluency – ORF) in the fall, winter and spring to inform classroom instruction and identify students requiring intervention and monitor progress.
- **Culturally Responsive Literacy Practices:**
Integrate land-based learning and diverse texts that reflect students' lived experiences to foster engagement and deepen comprehension.

- **Professional Learning and Resources:**

Provide support for staff focused on effective reading strategies, assessment tools, and responsive teaching across content areas. Invest in diverse resources to support and engage learners.

Data/Evidence of Impact:

- Teacher feedback and formative assessments showing improved comprehension in subject-specific tasks
- Improved student engagement and comprehension
- Positive growth in ORF data from fall to spring.
- Improvements in ELA achievement data (MyEd marks) over the year.

Goal #3: Strengthen number sense and foster a positive mindset toward numeracy by providing inclusive, engaging, and real-world learning experiences that build confidence, problem-solving skills, and mathematical thinking for all learners.

Student & Family-Friendly Version: *We want students to feel good about math and get better at using numbers and solving problems. We will use real-life examples, hands-on learning, and fun challenges to help everyone become strong math thinkers.*

Actions/Strategies:

- **Daily Numeracy Practice**
Embed routines like Daily Math Talks, math games, or fluency-building activities (e.g., “Daily 5 Math”) that reinforce core numeracy skills in a low-stress environment.
- **Targeted Instruction**
Use small-group or one-on-one instruction to meet the specific needs of students identified as requiring additional support.
- **Universal Numeracy Screening**
Conduct [school-wide] assessment (e.g. Island Numeracy Assessment) to identify gaps, monitor progress, and inform instruction.
- **Culturally Responsive and Land-Based Learning Approaches**
Make math meaningful and engaging through real-world, land-based, and culturally relevant contexts that reflect students' lived experiences.
- **Professional Learning and Resources**
Provide support and collaborative planning focused on numeracy strategies, assessment literacy, and promoting math confidence. Invest in resources to support number sense.

Data/Evidence of Impact:

- Teacher feedback noting improved number sense and greater engagement in numeracy tasks.

- Increased student confidence and enjoyment in math, as evidenced by student self-assessments and classroom observation.
- Increase and efficacy of land-based learning.
- Growth shown in school-wide numeracy assessments from fall to spring.
- Improvement in MyEd Math achievement data over the school year.