

## Westshore Secondary – Colwood 2025-26 School Plan

**School Context:** Westshore Secondary is situated on the traditional territories of the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. Westshore Secondary is a Ministry Designated Type 3 facility for students from across SD62 requiring alternate school programming. Westshore Colwood offers 3 distinct programs: Cohort (grades 9-12), Individual Learning Program (grades 10-12) and the Take a Hike Program. These alternate programs focus on the educational, social emotional, mental health and well-being of students whose needs are above what can be supported in a traditional school program. Westshore programs provide support to students through differentiated instruction, specialized program delivery, and enhanced counselling services based on students' needs. Westshore Colwood provides educational programming to approximately 200 students.

**Goal #1:** To increase Westshore's understanding of and engagement with Indigenous language, culture and connection to land.

**Actions/Strategies:**

- Continue to invite Indigenous Role Models into the school to guide cultural learning
- Increase opportunities for staff and students to learn on and from the land
- Provide professional development for staff on Indigenous knowledge systems, land-based education, language and culture
- Further develop culturally responsive teaching and learning in classrooms to increase Indigenous students' sense of belonging and connection to the school

**Data/Evidence of Impact:**

- Equity in Action Survey Data
- Increase in participation (staff and students) in school cultural events and workshops
- Student Voice and Forum feedback
- Increase in attendance, engagement and graduation rates of Indigenous students

**Goal #2:** To increase Dogwood Diploma graduation rates for priority learners (including Indigenous students, students with diverse abilities and youth in care).

**Actions/Strategies:**

- Integrate culturally relevant content and Indigenous worldviews across the curriculum

- Provide a “wraparound” model of support for all students; a collaborative approach between staff, advocates and community agencies
- Monthly review of each student’s pathway to graduation during SBT meetings
- Track student attendance, identify barriers to regular attendance and support students to break down these barriers
- Expand access to adapted resources, flexible program delivery and differentiated instruction
- Strengthen connection and communication with families

**Data/Evidence of Impact:**

- Attendance rate improvement
- Increased parent and caregiving involvement
- Evidence of students seeing themselves reflected in their learning
- Graduation rate data (Dogwood versus Adult Dogwood)
- Student Learning Survey Data

**Goal #3:** To enhance career and life readiness skills and opportunities for all Westshore students

**Actions/Strategies:**

- Collaborate with community partners and local post-secondary institutions to create more hands-on and experiential learning opportunities for students
- Invite guest speakers into career classes
- Offer certifications that will support job readiness (i.e. WHIMIS, First Aid, Food Safe)
- Embed more life and career skills into cross-curricular learning

**Data/Evidence of Impact:**

- Student participation in career related activities and events
- Increased post-secondary and trades education enrolment
- Increased student employment rates and Work Experience credits (WEX)
- Student feedback on graduation preparedness