

École George Elliot Secondary

School Community Student Learning Plan

CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2026/27

We are learning together on the unceded Traditional territory of the Okanagan, Syilx, People

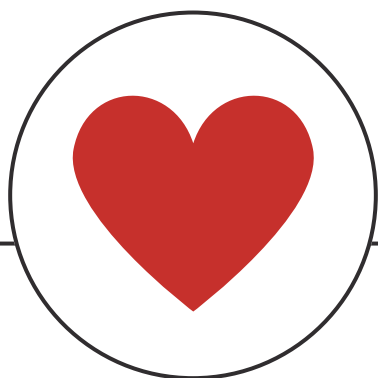
Nous reconnaissons que nous apprenons ensemble sur le Territoire traditionnel, non cédé, du peuple Syilx de l'Okanagan



OUR LEARNING STORY...

École George Elliot Secondary is entering the first year of a four-year learning plan. In this transitional phase, we have reaffirmed our commitment to our vision: Love, Learn, Thrive. Guided by these principles, we have engaged in an inquiry process to clarify our collective beliefs about learning. Love, Learn, Thrive represent interconnected elements of a holistic learning experience for our students. Through this process, we are bringing greater focus and clarity to our work.

AT GESS, WE ARE UNITED AROUND OUR COLLECTIVE BELIEF OF LOVE, LEARN, THRIVE



LOVE

A Safe, Caring, & Connected Community

Students learn best when they feel emotionally safe, valued, and connected to others.

An Inclusive Learning Environment

Learning environments with diverse learners are inclusive & personalized



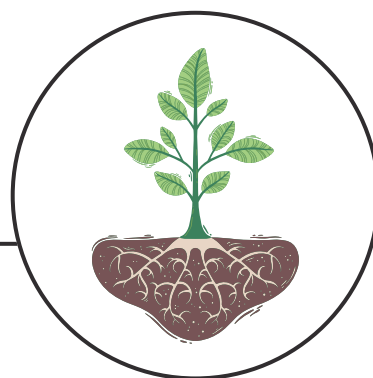
LEARN

Relevant, Purposeful Learning

Students engage more deeply when learning is meaningfully connected to real life & the future.

Stretching ALL Learners

Students learn best when challenged appropriately and supported through feedback and practice.



THRIVE

Engagement, Curiosity, Joy

Curiosity & positive emotions drive motivation and sustained engagement.

Student Agency & Voice

Deep learning happens when students have ownership and voice for their learning.

EVIDENCE OF LOVE, LEARN, THRIVE IN ACTION



Students at École George Elliot Secondary have many opportunities to engage with Indigenous cultural teachings through both curricular and experiential learning. These may include:

- Engagement with local Indigenous knowledge keepers and Elders, who share teachings, stories, and cultural practices
- Cultural events and school-wide initiatives, such as National Indigenous Peoples Day and Orange Shirt Day
- The Indigenous courses which centres Indigenous voices and perspectives
- Land-based learning, helping students build a deeper connection to place and the traditional territories of the syilx/Okanagan people

Through these opportunities, students develop a greater understanding of Indigenous histories, cultures, and ways of knowing, while building respect, empathy, and a sense of shared responsibility for reconciliation.

**ÉCOLE GEORGE
ELLIOT
SECONDARY**



CREATING A SAFE, CARING, CONNECTED COMMUNITY & AN INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

- Prioritizing strong, respectful teacher-student and peer relationships
- Welcoming students at the door
- fostering belonging through consistent adult connections
- Developing clear expectations
- Use Talking Circles to build trust, voice, & community
- Structured collaboration that promotes interdependence and respect
- supporting emotional safety and regulation
- Valuing and reflecting students' cultural identities and backgrounds
- Trauma-informed practices
- Offering multiple ways to engage, represent, and demonstrate learning (UDL)
- Meeting diverse learning needs and strengths
- Differentiation
- multiple access points & resources,
- Personalization
- Explicitly teaching skills like empathy, self-regulation, and relationship-building
- TRACKS GESS-HMS Mentorship Program



RELEVANT, PURPOSEFUL LEARNING & STRETCHING ALL LEARNERS

- Student-centered learning
- Project-Based Learning (PBL) - fostering shared purpose and meaningful, connected work
- Dual-credit programs & Career Programs
- Fire Academy
- Apply learning to community issues with purpose and impact
- Trades electives such as Woodwork, Metalwork, and Automotive Repair
- Encouraging learners to monitor and extend growth through goal setting and assessment
- Formative feedback through self, peer, & teacher assessments
- Scaffolding
- Opportunities for iterative cycles of practice
- Connecting learning to local context and real-life experiences
- Entrepreneur opportunities like the iGen Challenge
- Digital media opportunities such as photography and movie production
- Personalized Learning by aligning learning with student interests, strengths, and goals
- BRIDGE GESS-UBCO Partnership



ENGAGEMENT, CURIOSITY, JOY & STUDENT AGENCY & VOICE

- Empowering learners to shape their learning experiences through voice & choice
- Inquiry-based learning
- Co-Construct criteria, goals, and learning pathways with students
- Integrate fine Arts opportunities including band, commercial band, choir, theatre production, and the visual arts
- Climate Action Ripple Effect (CARE) Mentorship Program
- Dedicated time for students to explore personal interests
- Engaging students with authentic, open-ended challenges
- Giving students space to think about their learning
- Showcase student voice and growth through portfolios
- Facilitate Service Learning Opportunities for students
- BC Parks Nature Park Partnership