



Helen Gorman Elementary

School Community Learning Plan

CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2021/22

CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS OVERARCHING GOAL

Our learners will develop foundational skills and core curricular competencies so that they can be empowered to follow their passions and strengths and thrive holistically as resilient and engaged global citizens.

DISTRICT CORE VALUES SHARED BY HGE

- Honesty
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Equity
- Empathy

SCHOOL CONTEXT

In our 2021-22 school year, HGE has a population of 245. We are a school pristinely situated in the Glenrosa area surrounded by pine trees and rolling hills. Our staff consists of 16 teachers, nine education assistants, two clerical staff, and one administrator. We are committed to supporting the needs of our students and families and continuing to build connections with our school community.

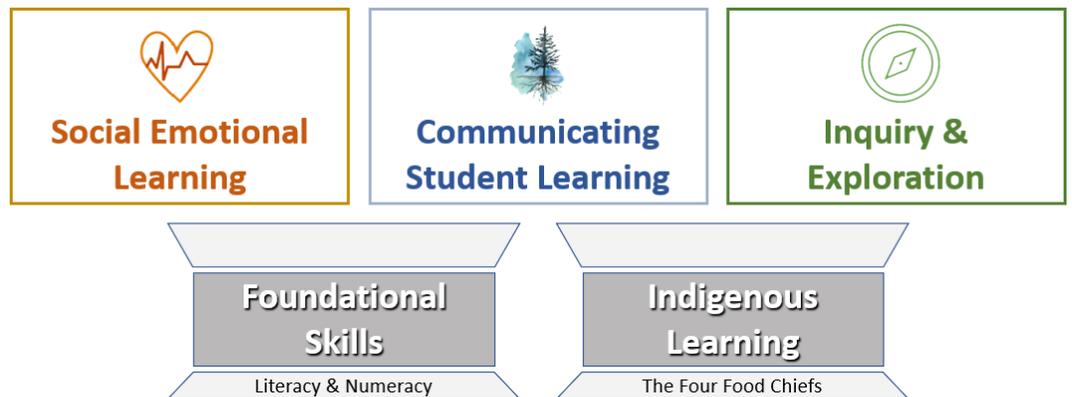
Our Learning Story

Helen Gorman Elementary currently is in our second year of a five year learning plan. In the first and transitional year of our plan, we used an inquiry process to identify a common belief in learning and bring focus to our school goals.



At Helen Gorman Elementary, we believe...
...that learning is a lifelong journey of inspiration, risk taking, inquiry, and growth. Deeper learning happens through resilience, exploration, and collaboration.

Our school goals have three areas of focus: social emotional learning, communicating student learning, and inquiry & exploration. Supporting these efforts are the competencies of Okanagan Peoples' Four Food Chiefs as well as the foundational skills of reading, writing, and numeracy.



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

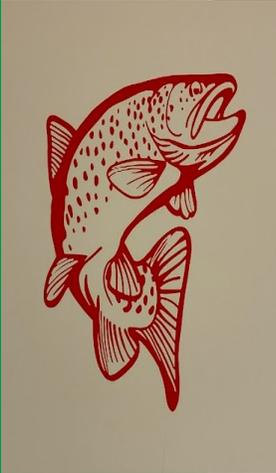
How can we support the social and emotional wellbeing of our school community so that our students develop skills to promote self-awareness and self-regulation and are able to contribute to positive school culture?

COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING

How can we help students go deeper with their learning and help them identify how they can improve? How can parents be involved in a dialogue about their children's progress?

INQUIRY & EXPLORATION

How can we trigger a student's curiosity and sense of wonder to help them develop great questions?



The Four Food Chiefs, *skəmxist* (Bear), *n'tyx-tix* (Salmon), *spitlem* (Bitterroot) and *siya?* (Saskatoon), are from an Okanagan oral story called "How food was given." We can use the unique characteristics of each food chief to help us reflect on our learning.

Reading, writing, and numeracy are crucial foundational skills to a child's present and future academic success.



HELEN GORMAN
ELEMENTARY

Social Emotional Learning

PERSONAL & SOCIAL CORE COMPETENCIES

- Doing Mindful Moments
- Calming images and music
- Teaching lessons on how to be a better friend
- Sharing and gratitude circles
- Daily wellness breathing, stretching and yoga
- Calm place in the classroom – calming chair with fidgets and brain breaks
- Learning growth mindset and goal setting
- Zones of regulation
- Formal SEL Instructional time
- Gratitude and mood tracker journals
- Counsellor, ARC clinician, Indigenous advocate

SCHOOL CULTURE

- Champ Card Draws
- Christmas Karaoke
- School Clubs (Battle of the Books, Social Justice, Ukulele, etc.)
- Spirit Days & Harmony Day Activities
- Field Trips
- Jump Rope for Heart
- Grade 5 Leadership Opportunities & Celebration
- Santa Bus
- PAC Pumpkin Walk
- SEL cards for staff
- Outdoor learning activities

Inquiry & Exploration

- Outdoor Play Area and connecting to nature activities
- Genius Hour or Passion Projects
- ADST Coding & Robotics
- Music Prep, Choir, Ukulele Club
- PBL and self-guided learning
- STEM Challenges
- Links to community
- Maker space
- Inquiry-based learning
- Pedagogical documentation – making student thinking visible
- Loose parts activities
- Provocation tables
- Wonder walls
- Discovery zones
- Questioning bins

CSL - Our Language of Feedback

