



# Highland School Learning Plan 2018/19



## Highland Secondary School 2018-19

Learning Opportunities – Our central concern is to continue to enhance and develop student-learning opportunities that engage, challenge and prepare students for their chosen future.

Develop and offer new courses in response to student interest

- Introduction to Business 12
- Philosophy 12
- Leadership 8
- Careers 10-12
- Humanities 10 (co-teaching model)

*Updated on Jan 10, 2019 21:51:35*

- We have two blocks of Introduction to Business 12 with 45 students enrolled.
- One block of Philosophy 12 with 29 students enrolled.
- Four blocks of Leadership 8 with 72 students enrolled (most of grade 8's). The course involves students in school activities and is the vehicle for delivering our Careers 8 program.
- Careers 10 is being taught as a two credit course in the timetable. Stephanie Baker and Megan Hedican are teaching this class. Careers 11 is 2 credit course scheduled outside the students timetable. The course is being taught by Ms. Baker in a Blended format. Students meet face to face on rotating Flex Blocks and meet several times over the course of the year as pull outs from their Social Studies classes. For next year our plan for Careers 12 is to be the same as Careers 11.
- Amber-Skye Brammall and Alissa Mather have developed a Humanities 10 program which they are co-teaching to 55 students.

Embed inquiry projects into academic classes 8-10.

Updated on Jan 11, 2019 18:22:15

- Ms. Tara Colborne has developed and teaches a grade 8 Inquiry for all grade 8's so they start with common foundational skills to tackle inquiry work.
- Ms. Becky Sulek has introduced Inquiry projects to her Foundation of Math 11 classes investigating research questions through statistical analysis.
- Grade 10 Career Education classes completed Career Investigation Projects and then presented them to the Grade 8 classes.
- Ms. Amber-Skye Brammall and Ms. Alissa Mather Co-teach two cohorts of English and Social Studies 10. Together with an artist in residence (Gary Alyward), they've developed a cross-curricular inquiry project for their students focusing on Global Inter-dependency and the Environment.
- Mr. Tony Dickson has used "Writers' Excellence" as cycles of inquiry with his grade 8 Humanities classes. Grade 8's have also completed a project based on the inquiry question - "Does environment shape culture and society".

Increase the number of our students taking ACE-IT, Apprenticeship and Work Experience.

Updated on Jan 15, 2019 19:22:24

#### 2017/18 Data

- ACE-IT: 7
- WEX: 93
- Dual Credit: 5
- Samplers: 9

#### 2018/19 Data (as of January 15th 2019)

- ACE-IT: 8
- WEX: 55
- Dual Credit: 1
- Samplers: 7

#### 2019/20 Data (as of January 15th 2019)

- ACE-IT: 4
- WEX:
- Dual Credit:
- Samplers: 8

Continue to develop and support Blended-Learning opportunities in our classes.

### **IMPLEMENTATION:**

Teachers using Blended Learning in some format this year (2018-19):

- Alissa Mather & Amber-Skye Brammall – 60 student cross curricular SS/Eng 10 cohort in BL format – pilot this semester
- Charity Munro/Ian McLean – Big History Project – Grade 9s <https://school.bighistoryproject.com/bhplive>  
(<https://school.bighistoryproject.com/bhplive>)
- Tony Dickson – SS 10
- Brenda MacPherson – Attempted it with Humanities 8; may begin pilot with Humanities 9
- Tara Colborne – Philosophy 12 – course built in CANVAS will be delivered Sem 2
- Becky Sulek – FOM 11, PC 11, FPC 10 – looking to add AP Calculus (building course)
- Nicole Kerkhoff – Science 9 – Chemistry Unit – also added vertical learning – wants to move to more flexible TT with tutorials, seminars
- Stephanie Baker – Workplace Math 10, Careers 10-11 (building and offering courses)
- Alissa Mather – SS 11 Enriched, Global Studies 12, SS 10
- Megan Hedican – Career Education 10

2017-2018 – 6 teachers implementing BL

2016-2017 – Two teachers implementing BL pilot

### **SUPPORT of PROFESSIONAL GROWTH:**

- September CI day – Two staff members (Stephanie Baker and Becky Sulek) presented a two hour workshop on use of the new CANVAS LMS and use of it in BL setting in a B&M setting. 14 Highland Staff and 3 GP Vanier Staff attended.
- Brian McAskill, Becky Sulek and Stephanie Baker will present at the SD71 February PD day for teachers across the District
- Use of release time to further BL growth and teacher collaboration

### **CHANGING PHYSICAL TEACHING SPACES:**

- Adjustable Height desks for Sulek's class. Used for group problem solving and students who wish to stand
- Movable double sided white boards for the addition of vertical learning to Kerkhoff's class
- Fold up picnic tables for outside classes in Upper Purple Wing to expand teaching space outside the classroom

### **VIDEO STORY:**

- Initial footage shot, final edit coming soon

Use Flex Block model to support learning through tutorial, seminars, work completion.

*Updated on Nov 22, 2018 19:03:24*

- When students were asked in the Student Council Survey of October 2018, What do you think of Flex Fridays? students replied: "Leave it the way it is" - 38.7%, "I wish we had more Flex time" - 35.5%, and "I wish Flex time was more structured" - 14.5%.

Use Flex Block model to provide enriching and choice-driven learning experiences.

Introduce the Big History Project to the grade 9 Social Studies and Science programs.

*Updated on Nov 22, 2018 21:46:39*

- Charity Munroe and Ian Maclean are using components of the Big History Project in their Grade 9 classes. There are 49 students enrolled.

### **Highland Secondary School 2018-19**

Community Connections – We believe it is vital to promote and pursue opportunities to partner and work together with our greater community to build relationships and embed authentic and long-lasting learning experiences for our students so that by the time our graduates leave Highland, they are connected and ready for the real world.

Increase the number of opportunities our students have to work with younger students from our feeder schools.

*Updated on Jan 10, 2019 22:00:54*

- Under the supervision of Becky Sulek the Cross Country Running team went to Brooklyn Elementary to run their x-country race.
- Ms Michelle Beaulieu's senior Foods classes decorated Christmas cookies with Ms. Green's grade 3 class from Brooklyn Elementary.
- Students in Ms. Lisa Williams' Theatre 11/12 class prepared plays for the feeder school's Boys & Girls Club.
- Students from our feeder schools are invited to the dress rehearsal of the District Musical.
- Students from our elementary schools are cast in lead roles in the District Musical.

Increase the opportunities for students to be placed in learning situations beyond the walls of our school

Updated on Jan 10, 2019 22:39:30

- When students were asked in the Student Council Survey of October 2018, Do you feel like you are offered educational opportunities outside of class time and extra-curricular activities at Highland ? students replied: "Yes, there all lots of things to choose from" - 42.9%, "There aren't any activities that I'm interested in" - 30.2%, and "No" - 15.9%, "I don't know what opportunities are offered at Highland" - 11.1%.
- On September 28th Highland put on an "Unplug and Play Day" to raise awareness about cellphone addiction and to connect our students with recreational activities outside the school. (Wall climbing, hiking, mountain biking, skating, swimming etc.). As a carry over, Ms. Brenda McPherson has been able to establish a curling club which has continued to meet through out the year.
- The Explorers Club took 10 students on an over night hike to Kwai Lake in preparation for a Cape Scott trip in the spring.
- Ms. Pavola Mtawali took her two Marine Biology 9/10 classes to the pool to receive scuba diving instructions.
- Ms. Charlotte Hood-Tanner had her term 1 and 2 Grade 8 art classes create Christmas cards with were then hand delivered to all the homes neighboring the school along with an invitation to the school's Christmas concert.
- Mr. Lee McKillican took several dozen student volunteers to the old hospital to assist with the sorting of Christmas Hamper.
- Ms. Jill Peacocke use a host of guest speakers from the community enrich her Psychology 11 classes. Guests has included Elizabeth Burr speaking about emotional regulation, Mary Lang on Attachment theories and Suzy Venitta on Dissociative Identity Disorder.
- Mr. Dillon McRae invites local financial planner to visit his Business 12 classes.
- Susan Bertoia and the Frantic Assembly group were artist in residence in the fall to work with our drama students.
- 26 students from the theater department attended a 3 Day Theater Festival at VIU and attended workshops, performed and won awards.
- Two teams from Highland will compete at the Canadian National Improv games.
- The theater department is going to Vancouver to attend "Come From Away".
- Theater 11/12 students have been invited to perform their "zone 1st place" one act play (Epistolary) at the Provincial Festival at Douglas College in May 2019.
- Mrs. Nicole Kerkoff took her Calculus 12 class to visit a 70 year old community member who is excited about Math and gave a "lesson" on the history of Mathematics by setting up stations around his one acre backyard that led students through the history of Plato, Archemedes and Johnson.
- Mr. Brian Stevens has taken his Girls Active Lifestyles 9/10 class to the Comox Rec. Center to play disc golf, squash and racquetball.

Recognize the learning that students do outside the classroom by introducing and supporting the Duke of Edinburgh Award program for all students.

Updated on Nov 22, 2018 21:11:43

- In 2017/18 we had 10 students register for the Duke of Ed program. Five of those students have now graduated form Highland.
- Anna Kostiak became our first student to receive the Award.
- Highland has run two Outdoor Adventure Activities in the fall and plans for two more in the spring to meet the Duke of Ed. requirements.
- Students continue to show interest. A recruitment campaign is planned for the new year.

Increase student awareness of community and global humanitarian and charitable causes.

*Updated on Nov 22, 2018 18:30:49*

- This year's Grad class have developed a Legacy Project entitled Grads Give Back with the goal of participating in 19 (grad class of 2019) humanitarian and charitable projects. These projects include Relay for Life, Blood Donor drive, Best Gift Ever, Coldest Night Of The Year and Thrive Malawi as well as projects involving our local retirement homes, local elementary schools and the SPCA.
- The Leadership class and the Interact club have undertaken the following community projects for the Christmas season: Everybody Deserves a Smile (EDAS) - This charity collects toques or mitts/gloves (XL for men and M for women) to be distributed to homeless individuals on the Island and in Vancouver. Defeat Cold Feet - collects woollen or partly-woollen new or gently used socks for those in need in the Comox Valley. Handbags for Hope - The Comox Valley Transition Society is collecting gently used handbags filled with essentials and treats for women in need in town. Christmas Hampers - Students are asked to bring in an item and toonie for our annual Christmas Hamper drive that provides thousands of families in the Comox Valley with food, gifts, and the necessities for the Christmas season.