



**Parent Advisory Council Meeting
Principal's Report
Valleyview Secondary School**

February 25, 2020

New on Staff:

- Lacey Banman – Science
- Richelle Vigeant – Career Education

What has been happening at the school:

- Course selection is well underway this week for all grade 8-11's
- Valleyview will be part of study in partnership with Dr. Krank from UBC.
 - “Preventure” will involve our grade 10 students
 - Will look at delaying the on-set of drug and alcohol use in adolescence
 - motivate adolescents to understand how their personality type leads to some emotional and behavioural reactions;
 - enable them to develop skills to better focus their strengths and weaknesses towards their goals;
 - equip them with tools to better manage real consumption situations.
- GRIP “Gang Reduction Intervention Program” for all grade 8-9's on March 4
- Choral Fundraiser on March 26 featuring the District Honour Choir as well as VSS
- Our music groups will be participating in the Okanagan Concert Band Festival on [March 3](#)
- Mural to commemorate our 5th anniversary was completed at the end of January. It will be



temporarily installed outside of the library but will be moved to the new wing when it opens.

- Valleyview is one of three schools that will be featured next week while school leaders and teachers tour innovative programs that put students at the centre and are working to improve teaching and learning for everyone.

Our School Goals this year:

These school goals are something that the staff and I are committed to working on this year, and in order to do that, we will be meeting in small groups on Thursday mornings while students are in FLEX block. These goals are based on international research from the OECD which is an organization that looks at influencing factors on economic development. I think many would agree that how well our students do in school really will have an impact on the Canadian economy. From this research then are our goals:

1. **Putting learners at the centre:** This means we are working at designing learning environments that focus on students' cognition and growth. It means exploring inquiry-based and co-operative learning experiences and it means developing self-regulated learners
2. **Building horizontal connections:** This means we are working at designing learning environments that focus on the core competencies that focus on thinking, communication and personal and social awareness that can be transferred to other new situations. It also means connecting the classroom environment to the wider environment and society.



An example of both of the goals combined is the work VSS is doing in the Indigenous Transitions Project. At Valleyview we are getting curious about what it means to be an Indigenous learner at VSS. Authentic student voice has been at the forefront of our work for all of our students, but hearing the voices of our Indigenous students in order to learn more about their learning experience as an Indigenous student will help us as a whole school understand what we need to do to achieve equity – dignity, purpose, and options for *all* of our students.

Last Friday, Joy Factory Film studio along with Jana Fox from Smithers School district visited us at the school, and interviewed staff and students. This video footage will be used in a larger project that will be shared across BC and throughout the world. We felt humbled that they wanted to hear our voices.