



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

November 3, 2020

New on Staff:

Teaching staff:

- Kelsey Davy – Career Education
- Richelle Vigeant – French
- Steven Gates – Learning support

What has been happening at Valleyview Secondary:

- Many Leadership activities for students
 - Halloween lead up with costumes, Get to Know your teacher trivia; guess the scary movie music
 - Basics for Babies
- Provincial assessments for grade 11-12's completed this week
- Student Advisory has been established - 15 students grades 8-12
- Pumpkin carving contest in Foods and senior Art
- Drama 10 class and the music class working on Remembrance day
- Jr. Art class produced a number of Remembrance day posters



Mark on your calendar:

Nov 10 Remembrance Day School Recognition
Nov 11 School Closed for Remembrance day
Nov 16 Project completion day
Nov 17 Quarter 2 starts
Nov 30 Report cards are posted to the MyEd Portal
Dec 7 ProD day

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 doing some new learning during our professional development time as well as during our staff meetings once per month. 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.

Evidence of our work on these goals:

One week into the school year, we scanned our student population just to see how they felt about being back at school. The results from over 800 respondents is outlined below. As a staff we are using this information to figure out where we need to go next in relation to *putting our learners at the centre*.



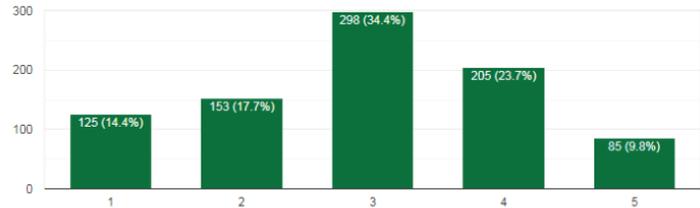
What is going on for our learners and how do we know?

One week in Survey
800 responses

Themes:

- Rules and expectations
 - Confusion from many
- Anxiousness and worry
 - Being back at school
 - Work load
- Community and belonging
 - Friends in different learning groups
- Engagement
 - Long blocks

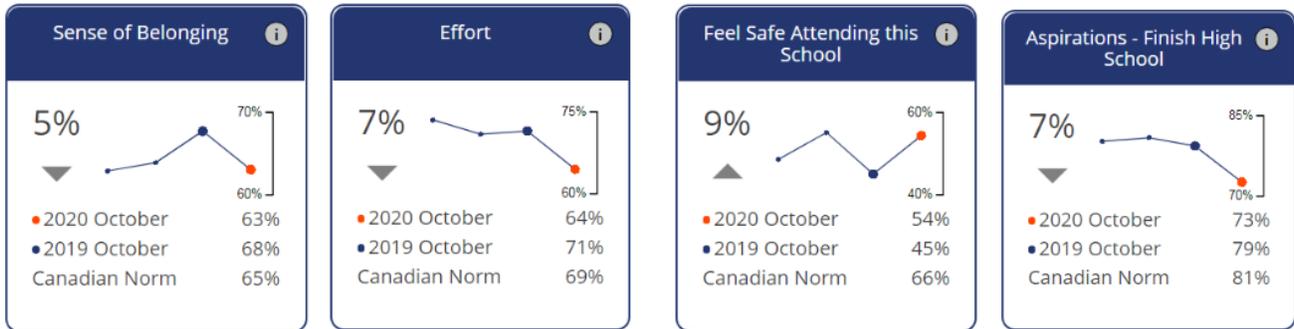
On a scale of 1 to 5, how are you feeling about school right now?
866 responses



Anecdotal evidence in broad themes based on the response to the question: *Tell us why you rated yourself the way you did in the question above.*

- Students have indicated a desire to create connections with their peers/passions outside of the classroom
- Students have expressed a difficulty engaging with the curriculum
- There is evidence that students would feel more connected to their learning group through collaborative classroom learning activities

We also looked at a few pieces of data from the District Emotional Well-being and Resiliency Survey (DEWRS). We checked some of this data to the data last year. Here were a couple of things we found interesting:



Using the [Spiral of Inquiry Framework](#), we are going to explore more deeply what is going on for our students and how we can make things better for them. In order to do this, we have identified two inquiry questions that we will do some more learning about and work to implement new strategies to address our curiosities!



Our school-wide Inquiries for this year.

1. What would happen if we incorporated mental well-being strategies in our school community?
2. How can a sense of belonging and feelings of connectedness be improved in our school community?

