



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 35 (LANGLEY)
**Action Plan for Learning
Langley Secondary**

Saints
“Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things”



District Vision: An innovative, inspiring and unified learning community

School Mission: Nurturing a respectful community that values effort and achievement

School Vision: Imagine, Engage, Act: Nothing without effort

School Values

- Respect and Responsibility
- Collaboration, commitment, compassion, and community
- Life-long learning
- Honesty and Integrity
- Effort and excellence

Langley Secondary

- Public school (Grades 9-12) in the Langley School District serving over 810 students (Sept 2014)
- 55% males, 45% females, 20% SPED, 11% ELL, 9% ISP, 13% Aboriginal learners (Sept 2014)
- Strong traditions in academics, fine arts, technology education, and athletics
- Oldest secondary school in the district (opened 1949)
- Unique programs include AVID, Fine Arts Intensive, FOCUS Alternate, BCIT Piping & Plumbing, Baseball Academy, Kwantlen Excel Dual Credit Academic Program, Trades I Intensive.
- Unique challenges including Karen refugee population, large percentage of vulnerable (identified and grey---area) students.
- Declining enrollment caused by demographic changes.

Long Term Vision

- Year 5 of a 5 year plan to shift the culture of Langley Secondary to a culture that values learning, effort, and achievement
- Langley Secondary has embraced the theme of engagement as the umbrella for the school's improvement

- Engagement in three areas – of the mind (cognitive, intellectual, academic), life of the school (social, behavioral, participatory), and of the heart (emotional – how students feel about where they are in school).

Inquiry Question #1: 2011 - 2015

If student engagement improves, will the completion rate improve?

Theme – Student Engagement

Rationale – The 6 year completion rate at Langley Secondary has moved from 69% in 2010, to 71% in 2011, to 74% in 2012, and to 75% in 2013. We also examined the completion rate when we removed Karen refugee students and Evergreen students.

Jun-12	Focus	16%	4 of 25	
	HDS	0%	0 of 5	
	LSS	74%	182 of 245	8 Karen students so 182 out of 237 =
	Total	66%		
Jun-13	Focus	47%	7 of 15	6 Karen students so 163/211 = 77%
	HDS	0%	0 of 1	+ 6 Evergreen students so 163/205 =
	LSS	75%	163 of 217	

Target: By the year 2015, LSS will achieve a completion rate of 82%

Connection to District Achievement Contract:

Transitions

(K – 12)

Objectives:

- To improve the ability of each student to successfully complete secondary school
- To improve each student’s ability to transition to post---secondary (apprenticeship, technical training, college or university) or work program

Connection to District focus on “Learning, Integrity, and Change”

- Connects effectively with the District’s continued focus on improving learning.

ACTIONS:

Legend:

Completed

Ongoing

Near Future

Engagement of the Mind

If assessment and instructional practices improve in the classroom, will the student completion rate improve?

Assessment/ Instructional Practice

- Implement sound assessment practices through the Staff Collaboration sessions
- Provide opportunities for staff leaders to attend professional development sessions on assessment, to explore best assessment practices and to share information with staff
- Use Department Heads and school experts to help guide/facilitate conversations and plans around assessment and instruction
- Share engagement and assessment strategies at staff meetings.
- Provide opportunities for AVID staff to share promising practices with staff at staff meetings
- Provide opportunities for staff to explore differentiation strategies during staff meetings and collaboration time
- Provide opportunities for staff to explore Learner-Centered strategies during staff meetings and collaboration time

Technology

- Establish a “Learning Through Technology” Committee to create and implement a plan for LSS to acquire more technology and to share out strategies for using technology in classes to improve student engagement and achievement.
- Create a plan for purchasing technology in school to support teachers in the classroom.
- Create 2 positions for Digital Learning Coaches at the school
- Install an effective wireless system throughout the school

Transitions

- Collaborate with administrators and staff from the LSS Family of Schools to support successful transitions
- Identify at-risk students and develop intervention strategies through the Intervention Team to meet their needs
- Share data (achievement and engagement) with staff, SPC, PAC and the

Community Round table to generate discussion and ideas for school-wide improvement

- Implement a “Position to Graduate” policy which includes interventions with grade 12 students in the spring to assist them in getting on track to graduate
- Implement the “Strategies for Success” activities and lessons in Grade 9 classes
- Expand partnership with Kwantlen University to increase accessibility to post secondary for our students
- **Expand post secondary visits for students**
- Explore and determine specific barriers to completion
- Implement Later to Literacy Program and monitor success (Karen refugee students)
- Persist with the study block policy signed by parents, administrator and counselor to promote students taking a full education. Increase the requirement to 88 credits minimum to obtain a study block
- Promote “Who to Go to for Help” document to parents
- Implement an After School Drop In Peer Tutoring Centre
- Create and promote a Grad Handbook for grade 12 students
- Create a Scholarship Handbook for grade 12 students.
- **Communicate Grad Gab to parents on a weekly basis to ensure parents have the knowledge to support their grade 12 child**
- **Utilize weekly Saints Scoop to parents to communicate opportunities around dual credit programs, career tours and post secondary visits**
- Provide collaboration time in the school calendar. This collaboration time will be strategically scheduled so that some collaboration time will be for individual teams, and some collaboration time will be for the full staff. The focus of the collaboration time will be on exploring promising assessment and instructional practices
- Provide a block of Pre-Math 9 to provide struggling Math 9 learners more time and practice in Math to better prepare them for the Math 9 curriculum. These students will be identified in April to better plan for September
- Expand the Pre-Math 9 model to Math 10
- Provide a block of Science 10 for struggling learners linked to a Science and Tech 11 and allow these students to write the Science 10 Provincial during their Science and Tech 11 class to allow more time to prepare for Science 10 provincial
- Provide a Literacy block to support vulnerable grade 9 students
- **Provide a Literacy block to support vulnerable grade 10 students**
- **Train more AVID elective teachers to expand the AVID program**
- **Communicate to parents, the importance of attending the Grade 9 Parent Night in the fall, Open House, Post Secondary Evening, and Course Planning Evening**
- Provide a space for a SWIS worker at LSS to work with Karen refugees

on: understanding school system and grad requirements, transitions to post secondary, work transitions and leadership development

- Create a structured and strategic attendance intervention plan that will ensure students with chronic attendance issues get back on track
- Implement “Taste of LSS” activity each year to assist in the students’ transition from HDSMS to LSS
- Implement “buddy” program to connect LSS students to HDSMS students to assist in transition from grade 8 to 9
- Implement an anti-bullying program run by LSS students in the LSS Family elementary schools
- Create a Trades I Intensive cohort for grade 9s who work better in a hands-on environment, allowing for an alternate path to graduation for these students
- Provide time for math department from LSS to meet with Math teachers at HDSMS to collaborate and discuss what essential outcomes grade 9 students coming in need to be successful
- Provide time for the English and Math departments from LSS to meet with Language Arts/Math teachers at HDSMS to collaborate and discuss what essential outcomes grade 9 students coming in need to be successful

Engagement in the Life of the School

If student engagement improves outside of the classroom, will the completion rate improve?

- Expand unique opportunities for students at LSS: **ie. Drag Racing Club, Robotics Club**
- Expand LSS student athletic and intramural opportunities
- Expand our opportunities through community partners **ie. Art Addicts and Yoga through City and Township of Langley**
- Organize an “Engagement Day” where students are introduced to the various clubs, teams and groups in the school.
- **Increase the numbers of students participating in our groups around social mindedness**

Engagement of the Heart

If students feel better about their school, will the completion rate improve?

- Increase participation in school events and activities
- Improve the look of the school: signage, bulletin boards, photos, display cases etc

- Celebrate our students' and school's achievements more through assemblies, newspaper, social media, school district and Saints Scoop
- Implement the use of Instagram and/or Facebook to celebrate the good things happening at LSS
- **Implement a school mural project with our art department**

Evidence:

- June Grad Rate
- June 6 Year Program Completion Rate
- Evergreen Completion Rate
- Fall – Discussion of non-completers – what are their individual stories. Can we learn something from these stories?
- June – Number of students accepted into Dual Credit Trades Programs
- June – Number of students accepted into Kwantlen Xcel Program
- Student Engagement Survey feedback
- Parent Survey
- Effort Honour Roll improvement