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## School Context

Simonds Elementary and U-Connect are two programs that share one location, located on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the Matsqui, Kwantlen, Katzie and Semiahmoo First Nations.

Simonds Elementary is a traditional K to 5 school, and U-Connect is a K to 12, District Online Learning (DOL) School. The two programs / schools were combined into one building in 2015 due to challenges facing both schools. Simonds was declining in enrollment and U-Connect was expanding beyond its ability to stay at its former school site, Lochiel Elementary. In 2015, the school began expanding its role as a K-9 school by enabling students to take grade 10-12 classes. Simonds Elementary and U-Connect are one school community with two different learning styles and we are continually working to find ways to build community and shared culture as a campus.



# Vision and School Goals for 2023 / 2024 – Overview

As part of the Langley School District, our two programs obviously are doing what is asked to support students in their academic, personal and social / emotional growth. We also strive to be compassionate and inclusive community that promotes access for every learner. To this end, although we are doing a lot of things, we are putting extra focus on the following 3 things for this school year:

- School-wide Social Emotional Learning and Implementation (all grades, both programs)
- Elementary Literacy (Simonds K-5, U-Connect K-7)
- Secondary Engagement in the Blended Program (U-Connect 8 to 12)

## School Wide Goal – Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and Implementation

For both Simonds and U-Connect, we want to continue a system wide approach to Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and implementation at all grades and be a compassionate system / environment.

- Use common language and expectations for social interactions.
- Increase the number of students managing to self-regulate.
- Allow students to feel safe personally and connected to the school culture and community.

## Elementary Goal – Literacy

Simonds (K-5) and U-Connect (K-7) are continuing to implement a comprehensive approach to literacy across subject areas, while also implementing specific strategies in language instruction for reading and writing.

- Identifying specific literacy levels and needs for each student, grades K-7.
- Based on that, using explicit instruction and interventions for students.
- Re-visiting those specific student interventions approximately every six weeks.
- Developing a literacy plan base around the Response to Intervention (RTI) model.
- Using collaboration (PLC) time to develop tiered intervention and support student success.
- Partnering with parents and families to give them some tools to help their children improve their confidence with literacy.

## Secondary Goal – Student Engagement

Given the nature of distributed learning programs, our goal for the U-Connect Secondary program (grade 8-12) is to focus on social and emotional connections in our blended program (blended means a mix of face-to-face and online instruction).

- We seek to increase student engagement and help students to develop a greater sense of belonging and personal growth. Our hope is that increasing learner engagement will help them increase their course completion and transition rates.

# Vision and School Goals – Alignment with District

## Alignment with Langley School District's Core Values

- **Integrity:** We know that engagement, literacy and being able to self-regulate are critical skills for students' future success, which is why we are continuing to work on them moving ahead.
- **Courage:** Change is hard. By working together as staff, students and families, we are committed to making the necessary changes.
- **Excellence:** Our focus areas are based on the most recent research about Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and Response to Intervention (RTI) strategies.
- **Community:** By having one common SEL goal for our entire community and a shared literacy goal for all elementary students (both Simonds K-5 and U-Connect K-7), we will not only be able to collaborate with a larger critical mass of staff but will also be working together as a more unified team.

## Connections to the Langley School District's Strategic Plan

Our Action Plan for Learning is intentionally in alignment with the Langley School District's Strategic Plan.

- Improving the Quality of Learning for all students.
- Continuing to strengthen the relationships with our community partners.
- Promoting the physical, emotional, and mental well-being of our staff.