Action Plan for Learning



School Name: Terry Fox Secondary

School Goal: Social Responsibility

School Year: 2016-2017

Goal / Inquiry #1 Character in Action

The aim of this program is to encourage students to take responsibility and develop their character in a positive manner. In essence the students' characters develop by the choices they make. Good choices create good habits and good character. Social responsibility is about students having character traits that allow them to be accountable and responsible for their actions.

Rationale

1-3 reasons for choosing goal

Belief that the development of character attributes namely: integrity, perseverance, leadership and compassion/kindness. are assets to students' personal, academic and extracurricular growth. The name of this program the "Character in Action" program.

Teachers and coaches have an opportunity to influence a student's character. This program builds upon the premise that key positive character attributes are the foundation for success in such areas as academics (classroom), athletics (extra-curricular), arts (visual and performing) and community (service).

References and sources to support actions

Terry Fox has served the Port Coquitlam and Coquitlam communities for over 50 years. It originally opened as Port Coquitlam Secondary School and then moved into the new building in 1999 and became "Terry's School." We are the largest Secondary school in Coquitlam School District#43. Terry Fox Secondary has a higher than average male population, significant number of Ministry identified students and a strong and growing International program. Terry Fox Secondary is a school extremely rich in tradition and tremendous community interest and support. There is a special and unique relationship between the school and their namesake – Terry Fox. Representing a true Canadian hero gives our school community an extra relevant responsibility. Our students and staff and parent community take on that responsibility in a very authentic way.

Our school is located in a growing and changing urban/semi-rural area and serves a diverse student population that comes from broad cultural and recently changing socio-

economic backgrounds. The community continues to grow as several new housing projects have set up on Burke Mountain. Our enrolment is starting to reflect this development. We have been told that the children moving into this area are in the grade 4- 6 age group. We do continue to draw students from Maple Ridge/ Pitt Meadows. Most often the out of district students attend Fox because of our outstanding (football, basketball) athletic programs.

Perhaps the most outstanding and prominent feature of Terry Fox is that it has exceptional school spirit - students and teachers feel proud to be at "Fox". Although we are striving to increase the focus and importance of academic success, athleticism, fine arts, practical arts and student leadership are also at the heart of the students' focus. Consequently, there are a number of very strong programs and groups that perform at very high levels with great success. Student leadership initiatives, music (band, choir, and rock school), theatre, football, basketball, rugby, and cheer are but a few examples. This school year

continued to build on its culture of care through diverse projects and presentations. Grade wide presentations from ICBC and plane crash survivor, Dave Jonnson helped us discuss and address the social mores of adolescent behavior as well as the intrinsic and altruistic windfall behind intentional kindness.

Continuing the project spearheaded by one of our leadership teachers, Dean Whitson, last year, our leadership students once again set out to raise enough money via the sale of SD43 Anti Bullying T-Shirts to donate all proceeds to our Tri-City KIDS SPORT initiative.

This year we made a profit of \$4500 on the shirts. We sold over 1150 of them in February. The Terry Fox legacy is very much a part of the culture at Terry Fox. The student leadership groups (student council, Legacy, Link Crew, Terry Fox Alliance) sponsor many community initiatives and consistently raise money and awareness for humanitarian causes. The year Legacy worked on behalf of doctors without borders and Syrian Rufugees. They were able to raise over \$11,000 between the two initiatives.

Backup Documentation (please see attached folder of images and documentation which provides much more 'color' to our school. This year we made a profit of \$4500 on the anti-bullying shirts. We sold over 1150 of them in February. These t-shirts were sold to the whole scholl district with many schools participating.

To help others the Leadership students spent a day in the downtown eastside area helping the homless.

The goal of the over 70 member Link Leadership crew were able to demonstrate their commitment to the social and public service of our community through the implementation of diverse Character in Action initiatives.

This began with a one day leadership training session in late August where the team met to discuss how best to support the incoming grade 9s and prepare a warm and open welcome along with the brainstorming of themes, plans and implementation ideas for the year's projects. They believed that when the Grade 9s saw what Link crew did, they would see what Terry Fox Secondary could be. In all initiatives, their goal was to recruit grade 9s for connection opportunity LEADERSHIP. Team building activities for the Link team themselves were capped off by a LEGO challenge that promises to be the prized feat of upcoming years.

Once again we were leaders in the annual Hometown Terry Fox run with many students, staff, amd parents participating in the run. Leadership students also host a huge water station along the run route and served water and lots of cheer.

A very special feature of Terry Fox Secondary School is the incredible commitment the staff, parents and community have to our extracurricular programs. We have an amazing number of teams. As a result, we have a very large number of students involved in extracurricular activities - more so than many other secondary schools. We have a higher than average number of coaches that come directly from our staff and our programs attract some of the most qualified community coaches and mentors in the province.

Another unique feature of Terry Fox is the high participation rate in the Physical Education classes. We run more PE classes per capita than most other secondary schools which may be the direct result of the passion created by the large number of teams we run. In addition, our PE staff runs a highly successful intramural program EVERY day at lunch. Furthermore, the Rock School Program is another rather special program at Fox that attracts a high number of students.

This year we engaged in a school wide intiative to support our ideas around the attributes that embody our "character in action" program: integrity, perseverance, leadership and compassion/kindness. We asked staff, students, and parents what an ideal Terry Fox Secondary should look like, sound like, and feel like. We generated a wordle with the words that were generated. This wordle served as a discussion started for most fo our homerooms this year.

Terry Fox is very proud of its high grade and transition rates. We believe students are engaged and attached to Fox because of the many outstanding programs we offer.

Planned Actions Continuing practices working well (1-3)

- What will we do differently? (1-3)
- How will we provide for staff developme nt and collaboratio n?
- How will we involve parents?
- How will we involve students?
- How will we monitor progress and adjust actions?

- 1. Distribute more Character in Action cards
- 2. Use the words generated in the ideal school exercise to create a more safe and caring learning environment. Staff, parents, and students will spend homerooms next year created activities that support the three biggest aspects; repect, safe, and clean.
- 3. Continue awareness on mental health and overall wellness
- 4 Continue to bring in dynamic and diverse guest speakers
- 5. Diversifying instructional strategies/ learning opportunities
- 6. Daily lunch tutorials be-weekly school wide tutorials
- 7. Trip to the downtown Eastside to increase student engagement and build relationships with adults / connects students to the community
- 8. Refine report card comments to reflect learning versus behavior, provide parents with more information on how they can support our classroom practice.
- 9. Development of new clubs and maintenance of past clubs: Math club, Science/Math Investigative Club, Chess Club, Drag Racing Club, Nepali Relief Club, Student Council, Odyssey of the Mind, Anime Club, Prayer Club, Art Club, Legacy Club, Photo Club, Improv Club, Model United Nations Club ...
- 10. Engage parents to support better decisions
- 11. DELF exams
- 12. Math Contests
- 13. 30 Hour famine
- 14. WE Day

Backup Documentati on



Goal / Inquiry #2
To increase academic
achievement by creating
engaging learning
opportunities utilizing
diverse instruction and
assessment practices, while
celebrating successes more
visibly.

The aim of this initiative is to promote more awareness of our academic successes.

Rationale

1-3 reasons for choosing goal

Terry Fox has been known as an "athletic" school for many years and we see ourselves not only as an "athletic" school but also as an academic one.

References and sources to support actions

This year we had a department head whose position was to create more awareness around the academic successes of Terry Fox. Some of the initiatives that came from this were: UBC engineering open house, Terry Fox Twitter account, Post Secondary night, and a revival of our scholars banquet.

We also saw an increase in attendance and performance at many academic competitions: Technovation Challenge, Skills Canda Web diesgn challenge, Ignite 2016, and the University of Waterloo Computer contests.

We had an increase in attendance at our Athletic leadership Series.

Planned Actions Our staff continues to pride themselves in the diversity of programs we offer. We can do better in the collection of more concrete data for use next year allowing us to Continuing practices more closely monitor and adjust our actions. working well (1-3) increase number of students attending school wide tutorials • What will we do increase awareness and development of our scholarship club differently? (1-3) continue the development of our Academic Enhancement Coordinator continue to develop the Gifted Program and investigate a Science Gifted 9/10 • How will we provide for program staff development and increase promotion and celebration of academic success collaboration? • How will we involve parents? • How will we involve students? · How will we monitor progress and adjust actions?

Reflection Highlights We are proud of the Terry Fox Community . We believe we celebrate our diversity in program offerings frequently and well. • Where are we now? A pattern we see emerging, through feedback from staff and students is the desire to • What are some patterns have this type of energy celebrating academic excellence and rigor. emerging? This has already influenced our next steps in that we designed goal activity for a pro-d What surprised you? held late May to seek feedback and move forward with a more refined second school What conclusions / goal. The collation of this is almost complete and we will draw data from this to see inferences might you where we end up next year. draw? • How does this inform potential next steps?

please see images attached in the folder

Signatures

Backup Documentation

School Name: Terry Fox Secondary	School Goal: Social Responsibility	School Year:
School Name. Terry Fox Secondary	School doal. Social Responsibility	2016-2017

Submitted by School Planning C	ouncil:	
Title	Name	Signature
Principal	Heather Murphy	
Recommended by Assistant Superin	ntendent:	
Assistant Superintendent		
Board and Superintendent Approva	ıl:	
Board Chair	Judy Shirra	
Superintendent	Patricia Gartland	