

SIMONDS HIGH SCHOOL



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Edited: November 10th, 2021

School Improvement Plan

***Vision Statement**

Our vision is to provide a balanced, quality education in a positive learning environment designed to meet the needs of all students and enhance their development in becoming effective citizens.

***Mission Statement**

Simonds High School is committed to creating a community of empowered learners in an environment of mutual respect and trust. Students will be inspired and challenged to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values to successfully contribute to our evolving society.

**Future goal - Review the Mission and Vision Statement to ensure they are reflective of the current goals for the school.*

School Improvement Plan Priority #1: The school culture encourages the engagement, active involvement, and inclusion of every student. School staff members ensure that the learning environment is welcoming, orderly, healthy, and safe. High academic and behavioural expectations are held for each student.

Goals:

- Fostering and enhancing Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports (PBIS) and Response to Intervention (RTI) strategies school wide.
- Provide opportunities for all students to build connections with peers and adults in the school while continuing to promote community and parental engagement.
- Ensure students from all cultures and communities are represented in our school.
- Promoting school pride to increase student engagement.
- A variety of opportunities are provided in the school to incorporate SEL practices.

STRATEGIES

- Create an area in the school that displays flags from all the countries represented in the school.
- Increase professional development opportunities involving diversity for all staff.
- Ensure school events are culturally responsive.
- Display welcome signs in both official languages in entrances throughout the school.
- Ensure our SRC and GSA have open meetings to increase input from various groups.
- Create a Principal Advisory Committee where students have a platform to bring forth concerns and ideas.
- PBIS and Guidance will work together to develop homeroom activities to promote SEL competencies.
- Teachers will focus on building strong relationships within their homeroom family.

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- Evaluate the placement of staff and classrooms within the school to maximize collaborative planning and enhanced learning opportunities for students.
- Administrators will meet with each staff member to identify where their skills and interests can be used to help with student connectedness.
- Implement Wellness Weeks/Wednesdays.
- Increase student and teacher use of the Learning Commons.
- Establish our Study Centre as a Student Support Centre.
- Relocate our Resource Team to a centralized location.
- Resource Team will provide monthly staff professional learning opportunities to enhance and build on knowledge of PLP development, working with the Pyramid of Intervention, Tier 1 Interventions and enhancing the capacity of staff to appropriately deal with behaviour issues proactively.
- Survey students on what extracurricular activities they would like to see offered.
- Engage the services of Jostens to bring the community, school, and parents together to create a vision, brand, and image that will be used in all areas: athletics, letterhead, clothing.
- Open a PBIS/School clothing store.
- Continue to foster the growth of Locally Developed Options, AP courses, and Personal Interest Credits to allow students to create their own pathways that will enhance their regular classroom experiences.
- Enhance our Athletics Department to ensure we are focused on strategies and supports to create scholarly athletes.
- Implement an Honours and High Honours celebration by term where students are recognized and celebrated at an in-school ceremony.
- A Media Hub will be established focusing on developing an online school newspaper and Podcasts to celebrate the success of the school, to highlight student achievement, and to increase engagement through the student-lead paper.

School Improvement Plan Priority #2: Staff will use evidence-informed Response to Intervention (RTI) strategies to support students with their attendance.

Goals:

- Establishing a set of attendance expectations in homeroom.
- Apply positive strategies to encourage regular student attendance.
- Increase communication with parents/guardians/stakeholders.
- Increase staff visibility during transition times.
- A variety of opportunities are provided in the school to incorporate SEL practices.

STRATEGIES

- Implement an incentive program (PBIS) to encourage and increase homeroom attendance.
- Communicate regularly with families and the community using weekly newsletters, school website, School Messenger, and Twitter.
- Ensure that during high transition times (break and lunch) students are supervised to get to their classrooms.
- Distribute the “Homeroom Advisory” book and have teachers select activities to try.
- Map out a PL plan for the year that focuses on student engagement and connections.
- Implement a PBIS team that meets regularly with a focus on SEL with the goal of increasing attendance.
- The CLT members will work with their PLC on enhancing assessment practices to foster a love of learning.
- Survey students about courses they would like to see offered. The 2022 Course Catalogue will be produced by Guidance and Administration to reflect the survey results.
- Ensure staff are making connections with those struggling academically, as well as their parent/guardian, to establish a plan for success.
- Implement a school wide process around attendance: homeroom teacher calls home when 5 days are missed (document), when 10 days are missed, a referral to ESS is activated and the student goes to the ESS attendance committee for discussion.
- Re-invent our cafeteria space to create an inviting, multipurpose space for students to interact with their peers.

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Future Goals:

- Review the Mission and Vision Statement to ensure they are reflective of the current goals for the school.
- Increase professional development opportunities involving diversity for all staff.
- Adjust the duty schedule to improve supervision while also increasing time available for teachers to provide clubs/activities to encourage student engagement.
- Review/adjust the bell schedule to maximize instructional time.
- Establish our Study Centre as a Student Support Centre.
- Increase student and teacher use of the Learning Commons.
- Relocate our Resource Team to a centralized location.
- Resource Team will provide monthly staff professional learning opportunities to enhance build on knowledge of PLP development, working with the Pyramid of Intervention, Tier 1 Interventions and enhancing the capacity of staff to appropriately deal with behaviour issues proactively.
- Implement Wellness Weeks/Wednesdays.
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