



Stonybrook Middle School Planning Priorities 2015 2016



READY TO LEARN
Be Responsible Be Respectful Be Safe

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As Stonybrook Middle School evolves as a distinct middle years community, the teachers and administrative staff have adopted the philosophy of "This We Believe", a foundational document that identifies the essential characteristics of middle grades schools for today's students. As such, these guidelines will be followed "in selecting educational goals, curriculum content, and instructional and assessment processes which grow out of an awareness and respect for the nature of these distinctive young adolescents. Understanding these students and the culture in which they grow to maturity will make informed decisions about the kind of school and learning experiences our students need".

This We Believe: Keys to Educating Young Adolescents
Association of Middle Level Educators

Priority Area #1—Students and teachers are engaged in active, purposeful learning

- ❖ Focus on the continued implementation of Readers Apprenticeship throughout the various curriculum areas.
- ❖ Incorporate Career Cruising and the Real Game as part of the implementation plan of Middle Years Life/Work Exploration
- ❖ Continued implementation of the Classroom Economy Initiative with extension to additional classrooms.
- ❖ Ongoing implementation of Math software programs
- ❖ Implementation of the Thinking Classroom as presented by Dr. Peter Liljedahl.
- ❖ Implementation of Makerspace, a hands on, activity based learning opportunity

Priority Area #2—School Community encourages purposeful and meaningful relationships

- ❖ Strong Connections assessments that guide growth and movements along the curriculum
- ❖ Continued professional development in the areas of Middle Years Numeracy and Literacy
- ❖ Social Justice initiatives that involve more students in hands on experiences within the community such as "Volunteer Week"
- ❖ Creating classroom environments that support all learners with furniture placement and arrangement
- ❖ Integration of Bring Your Own Device as a learning tool

Priority #3—Ensuring that our school environment is inviting, safe, inclusive and supportive for all

- ❖ Purposeful instruction of digital citizenship using the Canadian Centre for Child Protection and SMART Media
- ❖ Continued integration of "Ready to Learn"
- ❖ Continued health instruction using the Second Step Curriculum
- ❖ Continued development of "Teaming" concept to ensure that all students have an adult advocate
- ❖ Introduction of Cross-Grade mentorship

About Us

Winner of the MRA Crocus Award for Literacy:Administrators

SMS is a Grade 5 – 8 middle school with 362 students and a teaching staff of 24. SMS offers five core academic courses and specialty programs including Gr. 7 and 8 Band, Choirs, Industrial Arts and Home Economics, Art, Digital Art, and Drama. Grade 5 and 6 students receive Art, Music and French instruction. All students in Grade 5-8 receive French education. SMS provides student support through resource teachers, guidance counsellors, and 12 educational assistants. SMS partners with HSD Student Services to provide a wide range of clinician services.

SMS offers a full intramural sports program for grades 5-8 before school and during lunch, as well as inter-school sports programs for grades 7 and 8, featuring school teams in volleyball, basketball, badminton, track and field, cross country and soccer. Opportunities have also been established for grade 5 and 6 students to learn skills for interscholastic sports. A Recess Guardian program is in place for the noon hour to make lunch time more meaningful and safer. Students also have opportunity to participate in Special Olympics.

SMS offers opportunities for students to participate in opportunities for student leadership and student voice. Our social justice committee is a student initiated student group formed to address local and global issues focussing on social justice.