



SUMMIT WEST  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

S<sub>uccess</sub>  
W<sub>ithin</sub>  
I<sub>ndividual</sub>  
S<sub>tudents</sub>

Year 1 of our 3 Year Plan  
Independent School Authority

## Our Commitment

The program at Summit West Independent School is designed to approach student learning at an individual level. The aim of our model of curriculum delivery is individualized to meet the student where they are at, not where everyone else is, and not where they are “supposed to be”. Independent School Authority’s 2020-2023 Three Year Plan, *Success Within Individual Students* place’s the focus on working with the individual in order to strengthen the community as a whole. This is reflective of not only our belief that the onus is on the individual to manage their skillset and promote themselves from within to better their community, but also that strengthening the individual also strengthens the SWIS community.

## Accountability Statement

The Education Plan for Independent School Authority commencing May 31st was prepared under the direction of the Board of Directors in accordance with the responsibilities under the Private Schools Regulation and the Education Grants Regulation. This plan was developed in the context of the provincial government’s business and fiscal plans. The Board has used its performance results to develop the plan and is committed to implementing the strategies contained within the plan to improve student learning and results.

The Board approved the Education Plan for three years on May 27, 2021.

Myron Masterson - Board Chair  
boardchair@summitwestschool.ca



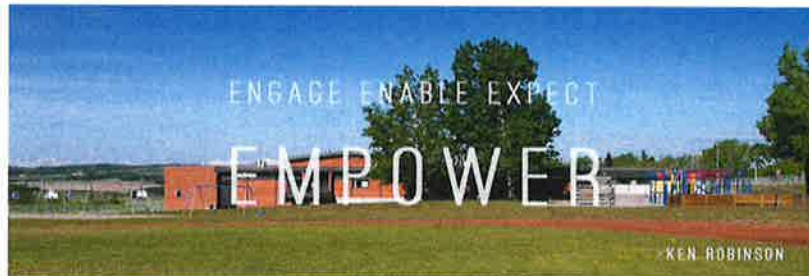
## About Summit West

### Vision

Personal excellence through student success.

### Mission

An independent school that offers an individualized self-directed learning approach for tomorrow's leaders that nurtures lifelong learning, engaged thinkers, and ethical citizens within a spirit of entrepreneurialism.



### The Numbers

**350+** Students in school and in home education

**17** Staff members

**1** awesome school

### The Options

Art, Drama, Music, Cosmetology, Philosophy, Sports Performance, Physical Education, Foods Program, Outdoor Education, Ski and Snowboard Club, Field Trips, and more!

### What we offer

#### **Full Day Kindergarten - Grade 12**

- **The student moves from exploration of childhood concepts, begins to take on more accountability for their learning and gains independence through increased accountability for their learning.**

#### **Home Education Grades 1-12**

- **A home education program that is focussed on supporting passions and pursuits of students, a fit for learning that works best for you!**

## SWIS Believes

All children are capable of independence. Guiding children through the “unwritten” curriculum that involves matters of real life importance, they learn how to navigate the world around them in a way that suits their needs best. The choices they make, the direction they are headed, and their life goals are all interrelated. Many children just don’t know this yet.

With curiosity comes questions. Children learn to advocate for themselves through modelling appropriate interpersonal skills, asking real questions, and not being afraid to ask for help. Mutual respect, time management, making good choices then being accountable for the choices made are all life skills that allow one to grow and learn, and ultimately, find success.

Success Within Individual Students is a multi faceted approach with several things taken into consideration. Success is the ultimate goal. In order to achieve success, students need to feel those successes Within. An emphasis on a growth mindset guides their daily interactions in order to produce intrinsically motivated individuals. Teaching the Individual what and how to work with their strengths is not only a valuable lesson to learn, it will serve them throughout their lives. Every Student deserves the individualized attention and the intimate knowledge of themselves. Teaching children not only how they learn best, but how to adapt to a changing world will encourage them to pursue life-long learning while attending to their needs, individually, and collectively.

Independence often requires a level of dependence before one is able to move forward, and our ultimate intention is to provide the guidance and support in order for them to gain the confidence to move forward independently, and to find their own personal success.

Summit West’s individualized approach is critical in teaching students “how to think, not what to think”.



## SWIS Students Will

**At Summit West Independent School (SWIS), our students design their learning so they can find...**

### Success in academia, society, and life

SWIS students are taught “how to learn, not what to learn”. The unwritten curriculum helps to develop the child from the heart out, giving them the keys to be a successful and ethical citizen. The written curriculum is the foundation of the school system, and our method of curriculum delivery enables students to explore interests, be unique, and find success beyond the provincially mandated curriculum. It also allows SWIS teachers to individualize program and curriculum delivery for each and every student to suit their strengths and needs.

### Within each of them

Intrinsic motivation is undoubtedly one of the best gifts one can have. Being motivated from within produces a sense of empowerment followed by a sense of accomplishment. SWIS teachers use specific questioning techniques in conjunction with a growth mindset. Have you ever thought about how different it sounds when you say to a child, “I am proud of you!” compared to “You should be proud of yourself!”. These small changes in our approach to each child makes all of the difference.

### Individual empowerment

In an ever changing society, curriculum included, students need to understand what works best for them, and not always what they like the best. “Is this the best way for you to learn, or is it your favourite way to learn?”. Rarely do these two ideas of how a child learns coincide, it can, but by providing the mentorship that allows students to differentiate between the two not only empowers them, it enriches them in a multitude of ways. Knowing yourself can be a major factor in becoming your best self.

### Student passion for lifelong learning

When a child knows themselves intimately, understands their strengths, intrinsically motivates themselves, and are given the environment and the structure to self-promote, the sky is the limit! Navigating the world successfully is important, as we all know, and Summit West students always aim high!



## Our Roadmap

To reach our goals, SWIS will focus on:

### Individual's (Students, Staff, and Leaders)

Student engagement is critical in the growth and achievement of each and every student. With engaged teachers and school leadership comes engaged and active learners. Formal and informal assessments along with metrics designed to identify areas of growth and achievement will help to highlight individual needs in response to the individual's growth and achievement. School teachers and leadership continue to engage in meaningful professional development based on individual staff needs, wants, and their own professional goals.



### The Community

Learning supports are delivered by our staff at Summit West and are tailored to each individual child. With mutual respect and a collaborative approach, our school community will grow stronger each and every year. Relationships are at the heart of education. The behaviours modeled and exemplified by our staff trickle down to the students, and in turn, are then presented in our school community and beyond the walls of the school and into the students homes and communities. SWIS students are proud to represent our school, even when they are away from it.

When the needs of the individual are attended to, the community benefits. When the community thrives, so does the individual.

## SWIS Goals: One

### Connect to the individual—Student Growth & Achievement

#### Outcome:

Empower students to engage in their passion areas.

#### How we measure success

- Percent of students who achieve the acceptable or standard of excellence on PAT's and Diploma exams (ABEd)
- Percentage of Gr. 12 students eligible for the Rutherford Scholarship (ABEd)
- Percentage of students who feel their teacher(s) provides choice and flexibility in how they complete their work (SWIS)
- Percentage of students who are absent less than 10 percent of the school year without extenuating circumstances (SWIS)
- Overall teachers, parents and students satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies, including fine arts, careers, technology, and health and physical education (ABEd)
- Percentage of students who understand how they learn best (SWIS)
- Percent of students who feel their teacher(s) respect their opinions and decisions for their learning (SWIS)
- Percentage of students who feel they have trust in and from their teacher(s) (SWIS)
- Percentage of First Nations, Metis and Inuit students who graduate high school within three years of entering grade 10 (ABEd)
- Percentage of students who feel they have ownership over their learning (SWIS)



## SWIS Goals: Two

### Connect to the Community—Excellent teachers and school leaders

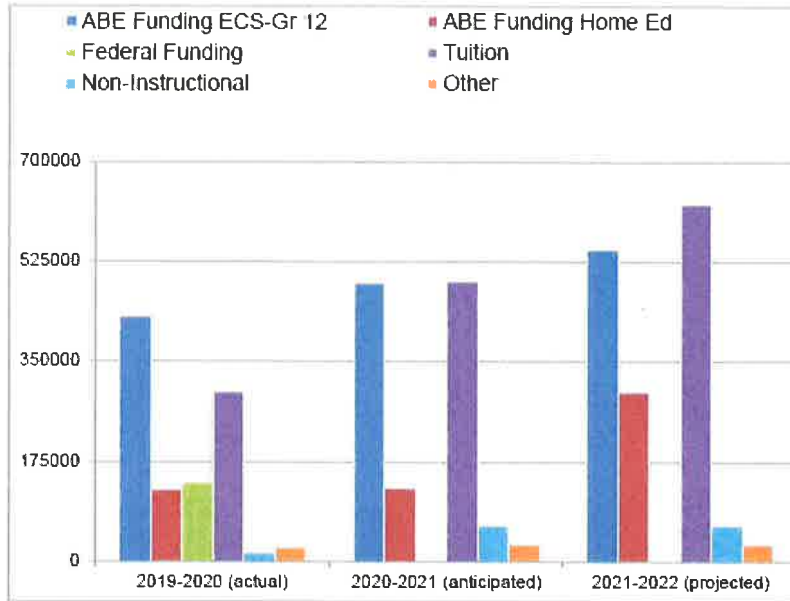
#### Outcome:

Students are proactive, resilient, and active in their community.

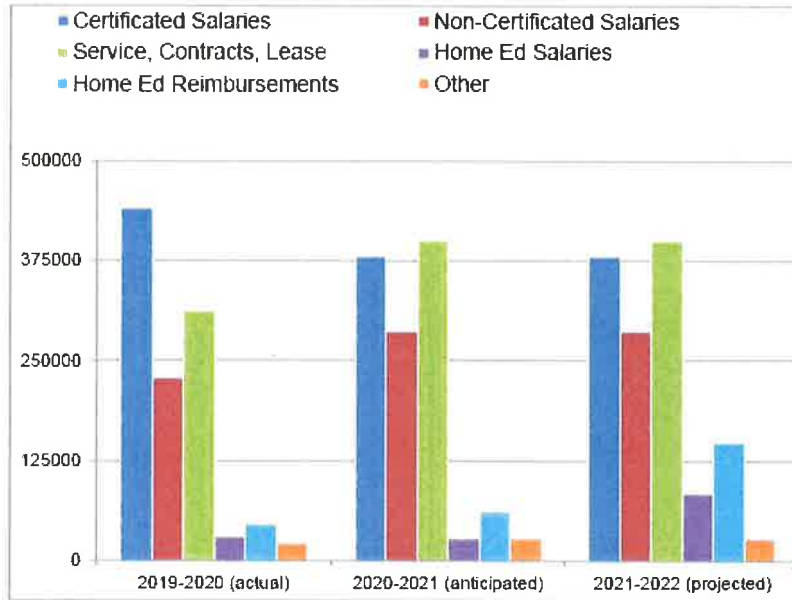
#### How we measure success

- Percentage of students who report that they feel safe and cared for (ABEd)
- Percentage of teachers who feel they receive sufficient guidance and mentorship from the school leaders (SWIS)
- Percentage of students who believe they can overcome life's obstacles (SWIS)
- Percentage of students who engage in the registered apprenticeship program (RAP) and work experience programs (SWIS)
- Percentage of students who report that they live a healthy lifestyle (SWIS)
- Percentage of teachers, parents and students who are satisfied that students model the characteristics of active citizenship (ABEd)
- Percentage of students and teachers who feel that mutual respect is abundant in school (SWIS)
- Overall percentage of students and teachers that promote and model the characteristics of a community of learners (SWIS)
- Percentage of teachers, students and parents that feel there is frequent and transparent communication between the students, parents and the school (SWIS)
- Percentage of students who feel their teacher(s) are consistent and fair when providing feedback and/or praise (SWIS)

### Revenue Comparison 2019-2022



### Expense Comparison 2019-2022







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