

Success Within Individual Students

2022-23 Education Plan



Teaching HOW to think
not WHAT to think

Our Commitment

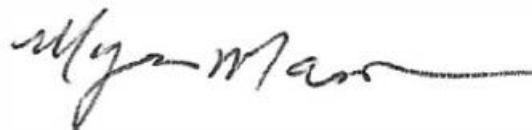
The program at Summit West Independent School is designed to approach student learning at an individual level. The aim of our model of curriculum delivery is individualized to meet the student where they are at, not where everyone else is, and not where they are "supposed to be" According to age or other criterion. Independent School Authority's 2020-2023 Three Year Education Plan, *Success Within Individual Students* place's the focus 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 governments 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 updated Three Year Education Plan on May 16th, 2022.

Myron Masterson - Board Chair
boardchair@summitwestschool.ca



Tracey Forrester - Executive Director
tforrester@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

- 400+ Home Education students with ByDesign
- 75 SWIS students
- 19 wonderful staff members
- 1 amazing school!



The Options

While we do offer students Art, Drama, Music, Cosmetology, Philosophy, Sports Performance, Physical Education, Foods, Outdoor Education, Ski and Snowboard Club, Field Trips, and more, the real limit is that of the imagination.

What else we offer

Full Day Kindergarten through to grade 12

- The child moves from exploration of childhood concepts and interests, begins to take on more responsibility and learns to be accountable, all while gaining independence and learning to make the best choice for themselves.

ByDesign Home Education

With our experienced and caring group of home education facilitators, we guide families and help them to stay focused on supporting their child's passions and pursuits, all while obtaining the education that best suits the child and the family



SWIS Believes

“ Teaching How to learn, not WHAT to learn



All children are capable of independence. Guiding children through the "unwritten curriculum" which includes matters of real life importance, they learn to navigate the world around them in a way that suits their needs best, and speaks to their strengths. 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 as teachers and peers model appropriate interpersonal skills, ask real questions, helping them to better understand that it is okay to ask for help and that there is nothing to be afraid of. The aforementioned "unwritten" curriculum includes mutual respect, time management, making good choices and holding themselves accountable for those choices made. All of these, and much more, are a part of the "unwritten" curriculum, and are all life skills that allow one to grow and learn, and ultimately, find personal excellence through student success.

Success Within Individual Students is a multifaceted 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 actions and interactions in order produce an intrinsic sense of self worth and improves motivation and confidence. Teaching the Individual how to work with their strengths is not only a valuable lesson to learn, it will also serve them throughout their lives. Every Student deserves the individualized attention and the intimate knowledge they gain of themselves. Teaching children not only how they learn best, but how to adapt to an ever changing world will encourage and empower 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 that guidance and support as they mature, 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...

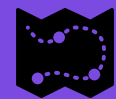
Success in academics, society, and life

SWIS students are taught "How to learn, not WHAT to learn". The unwritten curriculum aims to develop the child from the heart outward, giving them the tools 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 the 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 ownership and accomplishment. SWIS teachers use specific questioning techniques in conjunction with a growth mindset to empower and engage students in all of life's challenges. 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

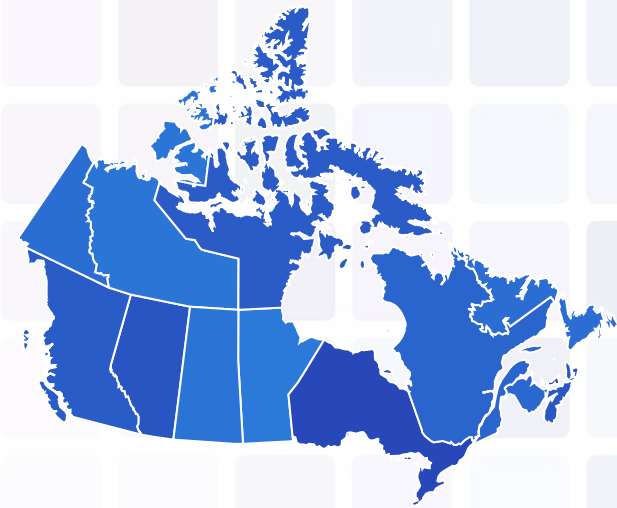
In an ever-changing society, curriculum included, students need to understand what works best for them, and not always what they like the best. "Is this the best way for you to learn, or is it your favourite way to learn?". Rarely do these two ideas of how a child learns coincide. They can, but by providing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



Student passion for lifelong learning

When a child knows themselves intimately, understand their strengths, can motivate themselves intrinsically, 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 SWIS students always aim high!

| Our Roadmap



To reach our goals, SWI Swill 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 coupled 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 modelled 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 the greater community. 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 Goal One

Connect to the individual - Student Growth and Achievement

Outcome

Empower students to engage in their passion areas

How we measure success

- Percentage of students who achieve the acceptable or standard of excellence on PAT's and Diploma Exams (AB Ed)
- Percentage of grade 12 students eligible for the Rutherford Scholarship (AB Ed)
- 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 opportunities for students to receive a broad program of studies, including fine arts, careers, technology, and health and physical education (AB Ed)
- Percentage of students who understand how they learn best (SWIS)
- Percentage of students who feel their teachers 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 (AB Ed)
- Percentage of students who feel they have ownership over their learning (SWIS)



SWIS Goal 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 (AB Ed)
- 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 a community of learners (SWIS)
- Percentage of teachers, parents, and student who are satisfied that students model the characteristics of active citizenship (AB Ed)
- Percentage of students who feel that mutual respect is abundant in school
- Percentage of teachers, parents, and students 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



Revenue Comparison 2019-2022

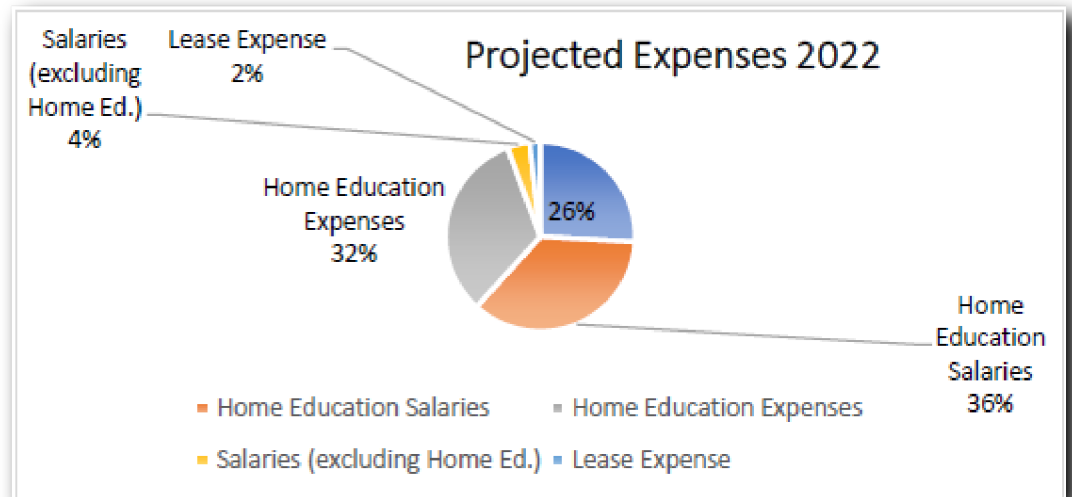
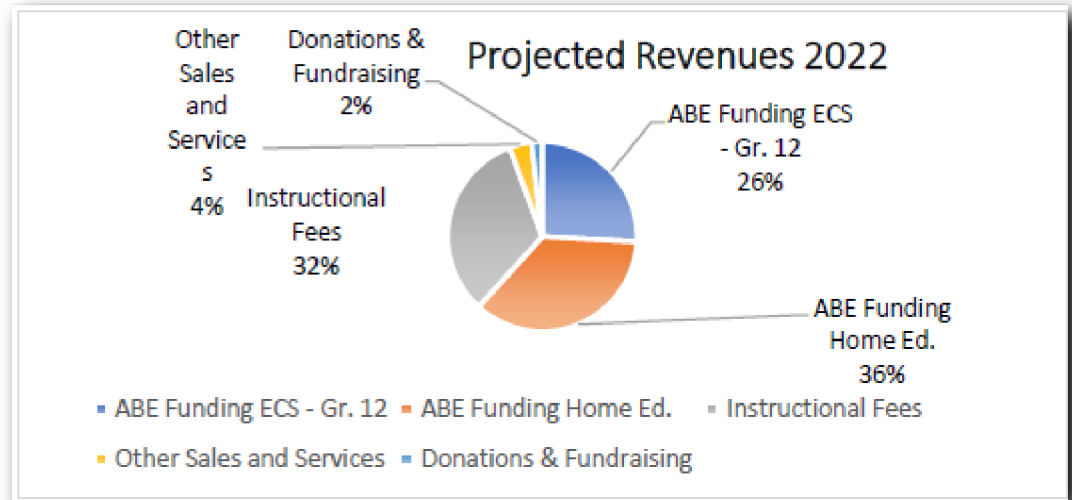
Summary of Financial Results for the Year Ending August 31, 2021

Allocation of Actual Revenues and Expenses to Programs For the Year Ending August 31, 2021

Revenues	Actual	Budget
ABE Funding ECS - Gr. 12	491,863	490,420
ABE Funding Home Ed.	412,824	165,000
Other Funding & Grants	95,992	-
Instructional Fees	383,151	470,000
Other Sales & Services	35,435	63,000
Donations & Fundraising	41,866	50,000
Total Revenue	1,461,131	1,238,420

Expenses	Actual	Budget
Home Education Salaries	120,622	43,680
Home Education Expenses	196,516	144,000
Salaries (excluding Home Ed.)	695,518	642,706
Lease Expense	122,317	145,000
Other Operational Expenses	170,245	253,192
Total Expenses	1,305,218	1,228,578

Surplus (deficit) **155,913** **9,842**



Contact Us

“ Teaching How to think, not WHAT to think

If you have questions about this annual report, please contact:



Independent School Authority
178003 112 st West
Foothills, AB T1S 0V8



Email: info@summitwestschool.ca
Website: www.summitwestschool.ca
Phone: 587.885.2343



You can find a digital version of
our annual report at: summitwestschool.ca/aerr-and-3-year-plan

