

1 FOUNDATIONAL STATEMENTS

1.1 Our **Vision** is a community engaged in lifelong learning and educational excellence.

1.2 Our **Mission** is to enable and inspire our students to realize their full potentials, as knowledgeable, confident and contributing citizens in a global community.

1.3 **Values Statement:**

(i) Engaged, Lifelong Learning for a Diverse, Creative Community

We believe in a dynamic invigorating and safe educational environment that engages learners educationally, intellectually, physically, socially and emotionally. We support and enhance the Sunshine Coast's identity as a centre for innovation, creativity, critical thinking, environmental awareness, and participation in community, volunteerism and the arts. Families and communities play a key role in the education of children, and it is vital that our public schools are welcoming, inclusive centres for family involvement and lifelong learning. We are excited about the opportunities and choices our students will have in the global community – as responsible, informed, skilled and compassionate citizens. We feel honoured to operate on the traditional territories of the Sechelt and Squamish Nations, to welcome their cultures into our schools, and to work together for our students' educational needs and values.

(ii) Accessibility, Safety and Equity of Opportunity

Public education on the Sunshine Coast is an authentic reflection of our unique local communities – yet also reaches far beyond. No schools on the Sunshine Coast offers the exposure to opportunities and genuine diversity that we do. We ensure that every student has the support, resources, options and teaching in order to realize and reach his or her full potential. The cultural diversity of our students, staff and communities is an asset to be treasured and respected in our schools.

(iii) Health, Social Responsibility and Environmental Sustainability

It is essential that our students and employees are safe, healthy and comfortable in their working environments. Emotional and physical health must be free from bullying and discrimination, and enriched through physical activities, extra-curricular opportunities, positive social interactions and community connections. Environmental sustainability is key to both responsible citizenship and a healthy future, and we play a fundamental role in advancing it through education, from our schools on out to our local and global communities.

(iv) Transparency, Accountability and Fiscal Responsibility

Clear, respectful and reciprocal communications are central to public education, from student expectations through to board expectations. The best way to achieve accountability is by the community being aware of and openly engaged in decisions, budgets, challenges and other aspects of public education governance. We take the responsibility for public education – and the public's trust – very seriously, as a significant tax investment, and a far greater societal investment. Programs and services must be delivered as efficiently and effectively as possible.

(v) Honesty, Trust, Respect and Recognition

Co-operation holds our local public education system together. For a function as imperative and sensitive as the education of our children, we place strong ethics in

high regard. Especially in a small “community of communities,” it is critical that we foster and maintain an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect. The contributions and achievements of students, employees, parents and other community members are to be recognized, celebrated, and cherished.