

AISA's Community Engagement & Learning Program Quick Assessment:

11 Essential Indicators

Rate each statement from 1-4 based on how well it describes your current program:

- **1 = Not at all** (We haven't started this)
 - **2 = Somewhat** (We're beginning to develop this)
 - **3 = Mostly** (This is well-established in our program)
 - **4 = Completely** (This is exemplary and embedded throughout)
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1. Mission Integration

Our school's mission and vision clearly connect to community engagement, and our CEL program actively supports these stated values.

Rating: ____/4

2. Curricular Embedding

Community engagement and learning experiences are integrated into the academic curriculum across multiple subjects and grade levels, not just offered as separate service activities.

Rating: ____/4

3. Teacher Preparation

Our teachers have access to PL in CEL pedagogy (such as designing units and assessments so students can apply knowledge and skills to local and global contexts, the mindsets of critical local and global citizenship, and how to engage with community partners in reciprocal ways) and feel confident facilitating meaningful community engagement experiences.

Rating: ____/4

4. Authentic Partnerships

We maintain long-term, equitable, and reciprocal relationships with community partners where students learn *from and with* community members, not just serve them. We are intentional about amplifying assets and recognizing abundance (especially when these look different from what we experience in our own lives and communities).

Rating: ____/4

5. Student Agency & Leadership

Students have genuine voice and choice in identifying opportunities for community collaboration, co-designing goals with partners, and leading action within their CEL experiences.

Rating: ____/4

6. Cultural Responsiveness

Our CEL program honours local cultural contexts, includes diverse perspectives, actively involves local community members as co-educators, and centres cultural humility as a key mindset for everyone working in authentic local contexts.

Rating: ____/4

7. Reflection and Learning

Students regularly engage in structured reflection that connects their community work to academic learning; students are encouraged to evaluate growth in understanding how identities, positionality, attitudes and values frame what they see.

Rating: ____/4

8. Program Sustainability

We have systems, policies, and dedicated time/resources that ensure our CEL program continues effectively as staff and students change.

Rating: ____/4

9. Planet-care

Our CEL program is rooted in long-term sustainability related to planet-care, both in our local environments and ecosystems, and in an authentic commitment to personal and collective regenerative practices.

Rating: ____/4

10. Storytelling

We regularly share stories of student learning connected to meaningful community impact(s), using these to improve and celebrate our program, and we are intentional about receiving and sharing stories to foster a culture of empathy and engagement in our school community.

Rating: ____/4

11. Intentional Scaffolding & Framing

Our CEL experiences typically include phases of inquiry/investigation, thoughtful planning, authentic and relevant action, demonstration and reflection that deepen students' understanding of self, others, and nature.

Rating: ____/44

Assessment Results

Total Score: ____/44

Quick Interpretation:

- **Less than 15:** We are in a growth zone where we can build all aspects of CEL in our curriculum and in our co-curricular experiences and spaces.
- **15-25:** Foundation building needed - Focus on mission alignment and basic curriculum integration
- **25-35:** Good progress - Strengthen partnerships and student leadership opportunities
- **35-44:** Strong program - Refine sustainability and impact measurement

Priority Actions Based on Your Lowest Scores:

If you scored 1-2 in any area, consider these immediate steps:

Mission Integration: Schedule leadership team discussion on CEL connections to school values

Curricular Embedding: Identify 2-3 teachers ready to pilot CEL units in their subjects

Teacher Preparation: Arrange CEL professional development session and consider resources, tools, and partners who can support professional learning for your teams

Authentic Partnerships: Evaluate current partnerships for reciprocity; schedule community listening sessions

Student Agency: Create a student CEL committee or survey students about community interests

Cultural Responsiveness: Include local staff in CEL planning; learn more about local cultural contexts

Reflection and Learning: Develop simple reflection protocols that students can use consistently

Program Sustainability: Document current practices; create succession planning for CEL leadership

Impact Documentation: Start a simple story collection system; designate someone to capture examples

Intentional Scaffolding: Review one current CEL experience and identify which stages need strengthening

Next Steps:

1. Choose your 2-3 lowest-scoring areas
2. Set one specific, measurable goal for each
3. Identify who will lead these improvements
4. Schedule a progress check-in within 3 months
5. Connect with CEL experts for support

This streamlined assessment captures the essential elements from the full [AISA Community Engagement and Learning Self-Assessment Tool](#). For comprehensive evaluation and additional resources, contact LeeAnne Lavender at leeanne@leeannelavender.com.