



WEST CENTRAL

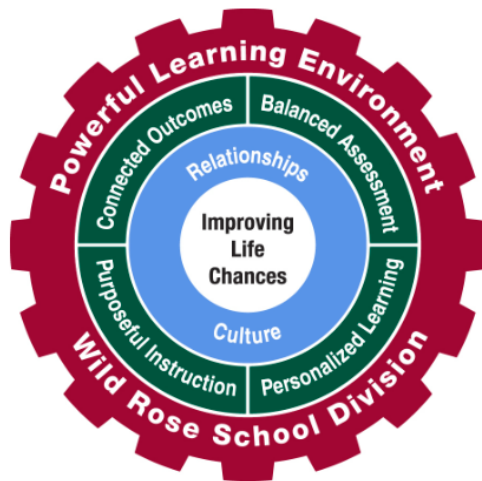


HIGH SCHOOL

West Central High School is located in Rocky Mountain House, Alberta and is home to a school community of approximately 480 students ranging between grades 9 and 12. We are a confluence campus that shares space with Red Deer Polytechnic and St. Dominic Catholic School. We are dedicated to improving life chances, and believe in working with our greater community to help our students reach their full potential.

2023-2024 INQUIRY QUESTION:

What does individual student success look like?



Wild Rose School Division has been implementing the Power Learning Environment framework, and West Central High School embraces it. We have started implementing this framework, and will continue to build strategies, best practice, and community connection that will actively help us to improve life chances for our students.

West Central High School is committed to helping **all** students learn. Our inquiry question (what does individual success look like?) will allow us the opportunity to work on building individual relationships between staff and students, as well as allow us the opportunity to really look at what personalized learning and purposeful instruction really mean within the walls of our classrooms. We will work together on our team to look at each program's connected learning outcomes, and build balanced assessment that gives individual students multiple facets, and opportunities, to show their knowledge.

West Central High School has seen a decline in attendance, as well as in general interest in student achievement, over the last two years. We want to look at ways to give students ownership over their learning. We want to engage them with both their studies and the learning process to hopefully build up their desire to be in classes. We want every student to feel a sense of individual success, and we want every student to feel like they belong here.

STRATEGIES:

- The staff at West Central High School will continue to keep building relationships with staff and students a priority.
 - continue with transition, collaborative response, and program planning team meetings
 - ensure teacher input and involvement with individual program plans
 - work together to determine each individual student's task while they are at school and provide support specific to it
 - reinstitute planning time that is division specific, as well as whole school planning time
 - institute the Take 5 model in each classroom
- Administration will continue to provide professional development opportunities that focus on student-centered learning and environments.
 - give teachers the knowledge and tools they need to help them continue with best practice
- The school will work to provide more safe spaces where learning can take place in an alternative setting.
 - continue to partner with Red Deer Polytech and community resources to institute the Indigenous education lounge
 - provide a comfortable, alternative space that all students can access to decompress, study, or receive support for both academic and non-academic reasons
- The school community will continue to partner with the greater community to help all students get what they need to find personal success.
 - continue working with the Breakfast Club of Canada
 - continue to work with the community to provide hot lunch and groceries for students when needed
 - provide opportunities for outside agencies to come in and work with the students in different areas of interest and need
 - continue to build relationships so that we can help advocate for individual student needs

MEASURES:

- Individual student growth (anecdotal, report card, IPP goal reporting, etc.)
- Student survey data (provincial and local surveys, multiple times per year)
- Staff comfortability survey (3 times per year)

- Classroom and school community observations

IMPLEMENTATION:

West Central High School has one monthly staff meeting, weekly professional program team meetings, and four collaborative response meetings planned for the 2023-2024 school year. We also have 14 days dedicated to professional development throughout the school year. In addition to all of our team meetings that take place weekly, monthly, and quarterly, we have the following professional development planned:

- Staff book study regarding the impact of implicit bias
- Work together to update our mission statement
- Indigenous studies professional development (6 sessions with whoever is appointed by division office)
- A full day refresher with behavioural consultant Aynsley Graham (completed three days on behavioural framework in 2023)
- Instituting professional learning communities within the building and incorporating planning time into our professional development days
- Bus field trip to one of the schools on reserve to observe the learning environment implemented
- Arranging for school visits within and outside of the division to observe and discuss alternative ways to look at our programming here

STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT:

Although this inquiry question has always been a priority at West Central High School, it became an intentional focus in the 2022-2023 school year. The staff has participated in 3 professional development days on the importance of building relationships and safe spaces for kids with Aynsley Graham. The staff has also been doing a deep dive into personal programming, and what it looks like to run a student centered classroom. The underlying theme within the building is “what is this child’s task?”, and we will continue to keep this idea at the forefront of our thought processes.

School council has helped guide us to help provide guidance for us to help make sports and other programming through the school more accessible to all of our students. They have been helpful in providing feedback to administration regarding the push towards a student-centered focus within the building, and spreading a positive message about the direction the building is heading. Next year, we are hoping to host more events that will be offered to students, parents, and the greater community that will help build connections between all stakeholders. This will be made easier with the riddance of the pandemic restrictions, and the stability that brings about.