

Seabird Island Schools & College

Seabird Island
Education





A Quarter of Challenges

- Temporary fuel and travel restrictions, winter blasts, and a new highly transmissible variant are some of the issues that have demanded our attention.

During these challenging times our focus remains on the following:

- keeping students and staff safe, as well as those in the community.
- Maintaining in-person instruction.

A Long- Awaited Change Comes

- This year we are in the process of transitioning from an Independent School to a First Nations Certified School, which is in step with the band's Education Jurisdiction.
- The First Nations Schools Assessment and Certification Process is a five-year cycle of review and follow-up.
- The Assessment and Certification Process begins with PFN (Participating First Nations) schools implementing a year-long review of all aspects of operations. The overall goal of the process is to identify school strengths and areas for improvement, leading to the creation of a School Growth Plan.



COVID SAFETY AT SCHOOL

- Day-time custodial wipe downs and bathroom cleaning are completed throughout the day
- All staff & students are required to complete a personal health assessment each day before attending school that includes Omicron symptom updates.
- Hand sanitizing dispensers are in every classroom and public spaces in our buildings
- All classes are provided with cleaning supplies to clean their desks during the day.
- Staggered recess and lunches have been implemented to avoid crowding.
- Morning protocol (prayer, drumming and singing) is now virtual.
- Staff and Students are required to wear non-medical masks indoors, consistently.
- Disposable masks are available on buses, in classrooms and at our front desks.

CULTURE AND LANGUAGE

- To promote Halq'emeylem among our Seabird youth, we have hired one of our recent high school graduates as a "language warriors" to work alongside our language instructors in classrooms so that they can take up more of the language and act as role models for our younger students.
- This fall, 17 teaching staff that have not yet taken Halq'emeylem 101 have enrolled in the course. While 6 staff are taking Halq'emeylem 301.
- The school sponsored Running Boards for the entire community on Nov. 12 to reduce the burden of stress brought about by the ongoing pandemic.



The College at a Glance

HIGHLIGHTS

PTIB

- The college secured its annual recertification
- Preparation for the 7-year review predicted for the summer is underway

Education Assistant Program

- Commenced with 8 students. Attendance has been spectacular. 1 of the 5 courses for the program are complete. Students are gearing up for their practicums to commence in the Spring

Systematization Efforts

- The staff are eagerly drafting their prospective position manuals with a target of June for completion.
- Efforts are in place to strategically document key processes and procedures with a goal of developing systems for the college operations.

Culture

- The college implemented an opening prayer to commence the teaching and learning of new programs.



Momentum for Winter and Spring

HIGHLIGHTS

- Marketing efforts for new programming commenced before the winter break. Strategies for a more engaged outreach are being pursued and new avenues explored in which to reach and recruit prospective students.
- Funding through the Ministry of Advanced Education has been awarded. A new Certificate in Ecological Restoration is expected to start late February.
- Classrooms are being revitalized with the Student Lounge space being designed to have a more cultural presence.
- Air quality for the whole of the college will soon be upgraded with a new HVAC system.