

## **Shaftesbury High School**

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# **Mission Statement**

At Shaftesbury High School we excel in academics, athletics and the arts. As stewards of our communities and landscape, we lead and contribute with imagination and drive.

Principal
Catherine Birch
Vice-principal

Jane Bachart



### **Board of Trustees Three Expectations for Student Learning**

- 1. All students in Pembina Trails will be personally and intellectually engaged in their learning at school.
- 2. By the end of grade 8, all students in Pembina Trails will meet the provincial curricular standards in literacy and numeracy, allowing them the greatest possibility for success in high school.
- 3. All students in Pembina Trails will graduate from high school.

#### 2024-2025 School Plan Priorities:

- Anti-Racism Education. 1. By June 2026, over 80% of students will be able to experience an increased sense of belonging and identify as being anti-racist. As a staff, we sought to answer the following questions:
- How can we disrupt the normalization of racist discourse in students?
- How can we find ways to center students' voices on the topic of racism/anti-racism.
- Mental Health of students and staff. By June 2026, 90% of students and staff will experience improved mental health and wellness. Part of this work is rooted in gaining a better understanding of connection with students, especially Grade 9s. We focused on helping our students to engage in their learning to the greatest extent possible. This will be demonstrated by students not leaving their classrooms/classes for an extended period of time.

#### **Progress Toward School Plan Priorities:**

- Leveraging data gleamed from the OurSCHOOL survey, the school endeavor to continue the work that began in the 2023-2024 school year to focused on Metal Health (belonging) and Anti-Racism work.
- The Mental Health and Wellness committee continued to make recommendations to sustain the changes to staff meeting format that began in November, 2022. The Mental Health Committee planned an informal gathering for staff members during the semester one exam period that also doubled up as a fundraiser.
- We continued the work of engaging students and staff on the topic of racism and anti-racism both formally and informally. We enlisted the support of two divisional IBPOC Committee members, Carol Stewart and Sanjeeva Louis, to help SHS launch SHS Diversify. Members of the student council and students were involved in the planning and executing of the first ever SHS Diversify event "Our Land, Our Home" in April 2025. The event was a rousing success. Students are al-

- ready planning for a similar event for 2025-2026.
- In fourth Indigenous graduates honouring ceremony, we have increased participating by Indigenous graduates by 25%.
- We revamped our Convocation Ceremony to be more accessible and efficient, while injecting personal touches for graduates so that every graduate can say that this is his/her/their grad!

### **Progress Toward the Three Expectations for Student Learning 2024-2025:**

- The school has actively engage with students in the LGBTQ2+ community to discuss what the school needs to do to create a safe space for them to learn and to be. We held a school-wide assembly led by Brock Mcgillis to address homophobia and discuss the discrimination faced by LGBTQ2+ people. (Engagement)
- The staff continued to develop/refine their teaching pedagogy to be inclusive and reflective of Indigenous practices, as well as being culturally proficient in understanding the increasingly diverse student body at SHS. (Engagement)
- The Indigenous Teacher champion engaged with Indigenous students all through the year and the group has expanded. We look forward to continue this work and to further engage the staff in reconciliation work. We engaged with the Ivan Flett Memorial Dancers for a school-wide assembly to live our motto: "United in Learning, Committed to Change" for this important work. (Engagement)
- We are moving away from the progressive discipline model as literature had shown that this model disproportionately impacts the IBPOC population negatively by creating pro-longed periods of absences that makes it difficult for students to re-engage in learning and the school community. (Engagement, Literacy/Numeracy, 100% Graduation).
- This year, 174 grade 12 students graduated on June 24, 2025. 102 of them graduated with Honours (80%+ academic average) or Honours with Distinction (90%+ academic average). The school's graduation rate continues to be well above 90% (94%+). Our SSST and teachers actively engage with students and families to discuss and explore pathways to graduation. This process begins in grade 9 and carries all the way through students high school journey at SHS. (100% Graduation)