



BVEC

SCHOOL GROWTH PLAN 2022-23

WHO WE ARE



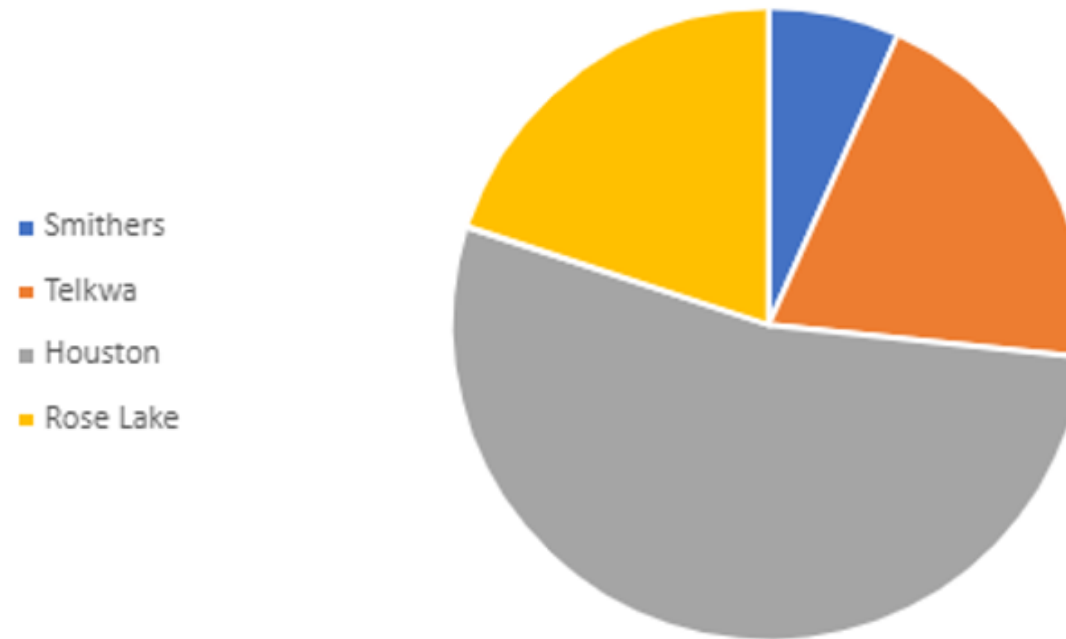
Bulkley Valley Education Connection (BVEC) is an online learning school providing alternative course formats for students to learn at home or at their primary school. Kindergarten through Grade 7 students may opt for a blended program in which they attend their primary school at least three days per week, provided the primary school can support this blended form of learning. Students in grades 8 through 12 may take a full course load as a BVEC student, a few courses or a single course with BVEC (known as Flex courses) while attending their primary school.



ELEMENTARY BY THE NUMBERS

This fall, BVEC has 15 full time and 2 blended elementary students . Demographically, they live in Smithers, Telkwa, Houston and Rose Lake. Last year, BVEC had 22 full time students. Six students were enrolled due to the Covid-19 pandemic and have returned to in class learning this year.

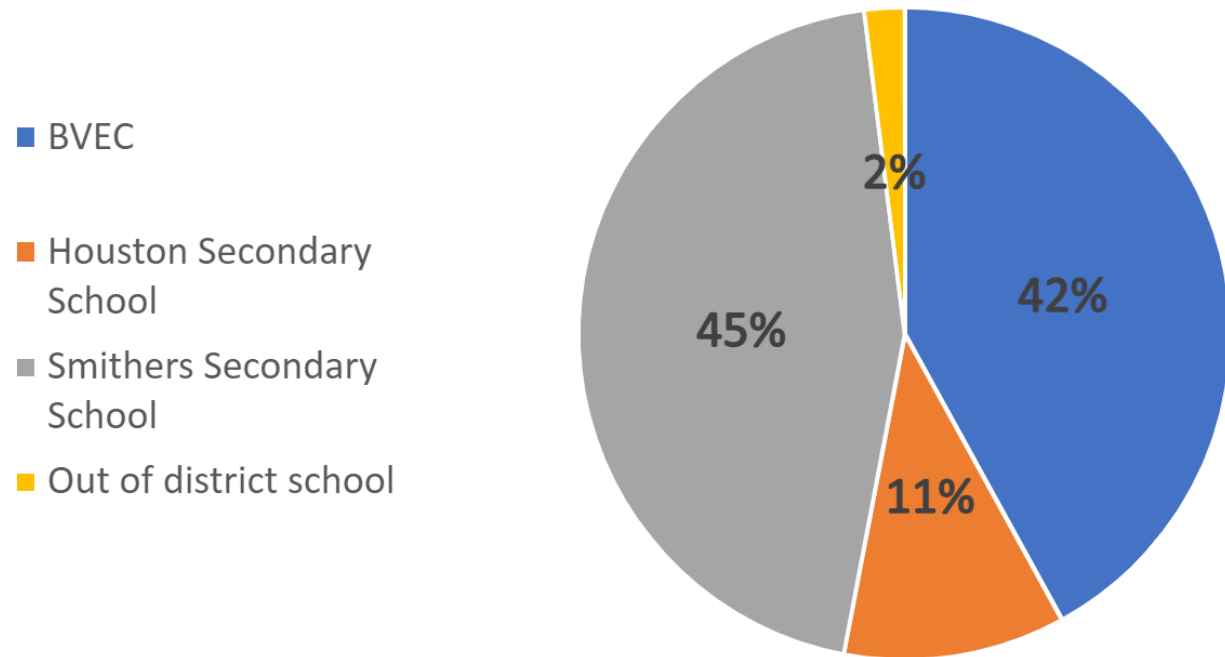
BVEC Full Time Elementary October 2022



HIGH SCHOOL BY THE NUMBERS

Enrollment in the high school program remains steady. As of October 20th, students from both within and outside the school district have signed up for 405 courses. In comparison to the 2021-22 school year, BVEC is on track to have the same enrollment this year (by mid-October of 2021, 397 courses were requested).

School of Record for Grade 8- 12 Courses October 2022



SCHOOL GOAL #1: TRACK STUDENT SUCCESS

Looking at last year's high school data, 644 courses were requested with a 64% activation rate, a 20% withdrawal rate and 14% 'unknown' inactive rate. As part of our goals for this year, we wish to have a better tracking system to determine why students choose to withdraw and/or not activate and to track the successful completion of each course. This will allow us to scan for any patterns and to implement changes to help students be successful and to increase our graduation rate.



WHY STUDENTS WITHDREW FROM COURSES (SEPT - OCT 2022)

- Switching to a different online program
- Choosing to take the course 'in class'
- Moving to the Adult Graduation program
- Changing to a different course with BVEC
- Not needed for the secondary program they wish to apply to



A BROAD VARIETY OF COURSES

With three dynamic teaching staff, BVEC provides more than 66 different high school courses and fully support students in the elementary program. This allows for full time students who learn at home, a full complement of courses to graduate. If our students require a course that we do not offer, we will suggest other online schools that have these courses or encourage them to consider taking a course at their local high school.



"Playing on the computer" image by John Watson via Flickr

WHY STUDENTS CHOOSE BVEC HIGH SCHOOL COURSES:

Scheduling conflicts at their primary school

Course cannot be offered that year at their primary school

More time to complete a course

Accelerate their learning

Time constraints when students are part of specialized programs

A break from the 'classroom' where they can have a quiet area to learn during the school day.

Ability to choose projects to complete, or to choose how they wish to show their learning

Starting courses early for the following school year so that they can add an additional course to their timetable; or to have a study block for their academic courses.

Unique course options



Capstone Project May 2020

SCHOOL GOAL #2: APPRECIATIVE FEEDBACK

Over the past three years, our staff has been working on appreciative feedback with course work. This focus on telling students what they appreciated about their work has had a positive effect on our students. They feel heard and want to continue taking courses with BVEC. As part of our school goals, we wish to continue adding appreciative feedback in addition to student self-assessments and reflections into our courses.

This might seem a strange request, but I was wondering whether you could forward the feedback you sent (student name) about her Capstone presentation, to me? She read it to me today, and I thought it was some lovely commentary, on my lovely daughter, and I was wanting to send it on to her Father.... I think he'd also get great pleasure out of reading your feedback!

INCREASE KNOWLEDGE OF AND VALUE FOR INDIGENOUS WORLDVIEWS AND PERSPECTIVES.

To meet the need for an Indigenous course credit as required for students graduating in 2024 and later, we offer BCFPS 12, English First Peoples 10, English First Peoples 12 and Contemporary Indigenous Studies 12. Many of our high school and elementary courses include some Indigenous knowledge, including a recently built unit about Residential Schools in our Humanities 5 course.

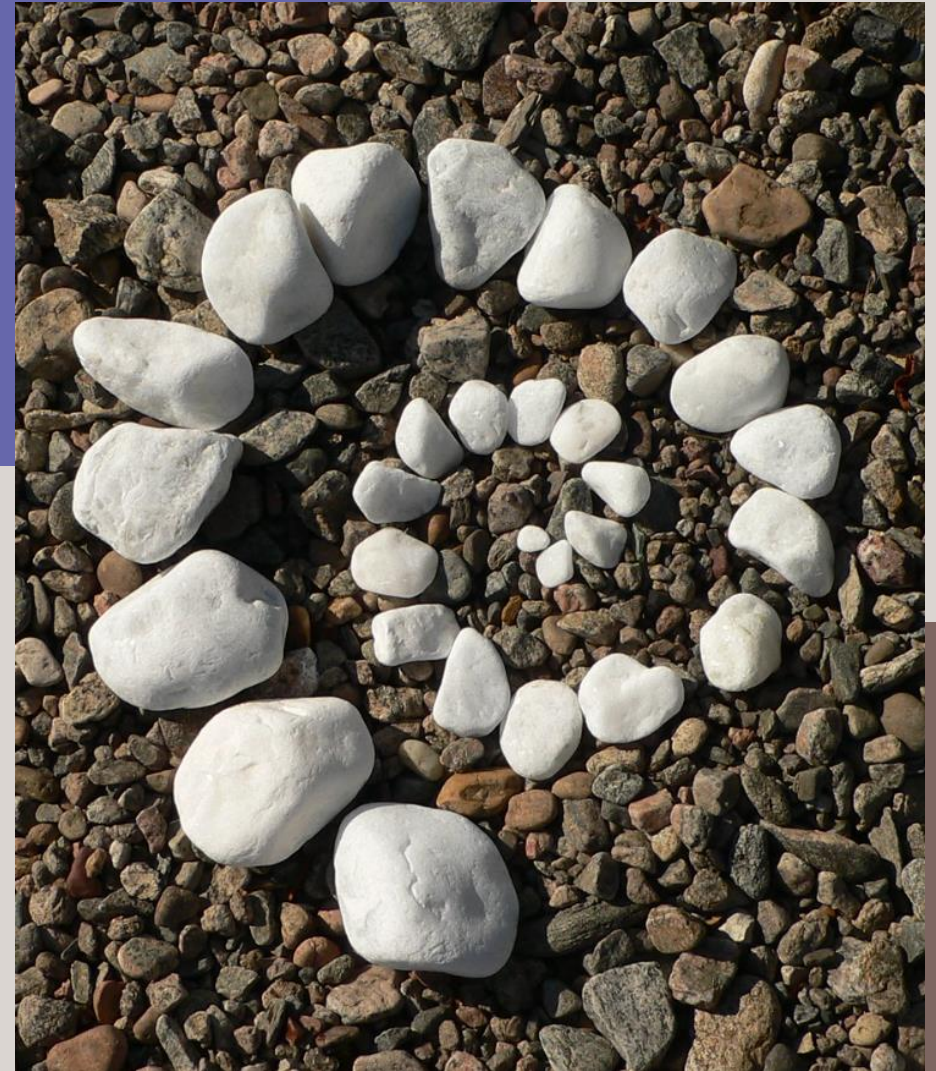


Description: “Open heart, open mind for the learning spirit”
Feather for lifting up students’ spirits, face with tongue to
hear the voice of the students, hand for mastery and binding
reminder for nothing less than excellence for all students.

©2020 Jolene Andrew, a Witsuwit`en artist from the Likhsilyu
Clan – House of Many Eyes. J

SCHOOL GOAL #3: INCREASE INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

Our goal is to scan our courses to determine where we might add more Indigenous knowledge and Witsuwit'en culture and language.



'Spiral' by Craig Nagy, Flickr

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Many of our students (and families) tell us that they struggle with school due to anxiety and other health issues. Our staff is cognizant of how stress and seasonal changes can affect how we work. We see this in our students and as a result we have incorporated different activities for students to take part in over the school year.



SCHOOL GOAL #4: SUPPORT ALL STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE OPTIMAL PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLNESS

- Each year, our student population changes, and we adapt to their interests and needs. Last year, BVEC had a knitting club, chess club and a Couch to 5K program. Our school goal is to continue adding activities that support our students' wellness by learning about who they are and their interests. Face to face activities and additional v-classes are being offered for our elementary students in response to the need for more social activities.

SUMMARY

With the changes to online learning, BVEC is at a crossroads in terms of how it will continue to provide flexible learning options to students within our schools and provide a wide variety of courses for families that choose to learn at home. There may be some structural changes to the school, but the choice and flexibility provided to our students should continue over the coming years.

For more information about the changes to online learning, please see:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/classroom-alternatives/online-learning>