

TITLE: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR - PRESCHOOL
SCHOOL: Qwam Qwum Stuwixwulh (QQS) Community School
(Snuneymuxw First Nation Territory)
REPORTS TO: Principal or designate

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SUMMARY

Under the general direction of Principal or designate, and in cooperation with the Snuneymuxw First Nation, the Early Childhood Educator will be responsible for the delivery of the programming and instruction of curriculum to Preschool aged children in an Elementary school environment.

BACKGROUND

Snuneymuxw First Nation (SFN) Chief and Council and the Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools (NLPS) Board of Education are committed to co-governing and operating the new Qwam Qwum Stuwixwulh Community School on Snuneymuxw land. The overall goal is to develop and restore a sense of place, to be a beacon of holistic learning, and connect learners to the knowledge and language that is rooted in these sacred lands. This is a path to student success, supported by the Syeyutsus framework for walking in two worlds. The brilliance of our ancestors, compel us, to work in a way that conveys respect and kindness.

It is the shared vision of SFN and NLPS, our promise, that we will offer a present day portal; an entry way to a great house that fosters holism, interconnectedness and hope for the future.

Qwam Qwum Stuwixwulh Community School and Bayview Elementary are sister schools and, as family, the schools aim to foster strong relationships with staff, learners and the school communities. This may involve support, mentorship, shared professional development and various resources. The Principal of Bayview Elementary will provide educational and administrative leadership to both schools.

Qwam Qwum Stuwixwulh Community School will be guided by the principles and practices of Snuneymuxw teachings, land-based learning and knowing, strength-based approaches, and trauma informed mindset strategies of support. Elders, knowledge-keepers, cultural language teachers and district staff will provide guidance and direction that will influence the culture of this school.

We believe that supporting learners as a collective community is the path to nurturing and educating the whole child and all children.

Teacher and Early Childhood Educator employees carry out educational tasks such as establishing learning objectives and specifying the strategies and actions to achieve these objectives, identifying educational needs, developing and/or co-developing educational programs or activities, and teaching or instructing students.

DUTIES

1. The Early Childhood Educator will develop a program based on the Areas of Learning in the BC Early Learning Framework as required by the Ministry of Education – for example, written “Shape of the Day” itinerary; Written daily plans.
2. Plan, set up and facilitate the delivery of the program using a systematic plan of lessons, discussions, feedback for learning, audiovisual presentations and field trips making adaptations for learners based on their individual and collective needs.
3. Lead Preschool students in activities to promote their physical, mental and social development and their school readiness.
4. Identify children's individual learning needs.
5. Discuss achievement with students, parents and school officials.
6. Facilitate and promote special events, workshops, meetings, and parent information sessions for the Preschool program.
7. Provide current information and effectively communicate on early learning opportunities in the community utilizing the services of other agencies and organizations.
8. Respond to information and resource requests from parents and care providers.
9. Maintain a working knowledge of community services, resource individuals and support for children and their families.
10. Coordinate and liaise with school-based principal.
11. Attend meetings as required that pertain to the Preschool program.
12. Receive and distribute correspondence, forms, applications, brochures, and newsletters that relate to the Preschool program.
13. Forward registration information as required to the district administration office for entering into MyEdBC and for requesting PENS.
14. Enter attendance electronically on a daily basis.
15. Maintain a working knowledge of current and changing Ministry and District policies and procedures and communicate this information to families and community.
16. Develop positive working relationships with the community and partners and celebrate the cultural diversity of the community.
17. Participate in professional development, workshops, training and keep current with early learning and child care issues.
18. Maintain and request supplies for the program: consumables, books arts and crafts and nutrition supplies.
19. Maintain health and safety practices in accordance with the School District Guidelines, - specifically, to clean and disinfect toys the diaper changing areas, and food preparation areas.
20. May be expected to supervise practicum placement students (Early Childhood Educator trainees).
18. May, on occasion, be required to perform other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

- High school graduation or the equivalent.
- Successful completion of a Diploma, in Early Childhood Education with a Preschool specialization; and a Community Care Facilities Branch B.C. License to Practice.
- A valid Child Safe First Aid Certificate.
- Three years’ experience in creating, planning, implementing and budgeting for an early learning

program.

- Strong verbal, written communication and interpersonal skills. Ability to plan, organize and implement special events, workshops, meetings and information sessions.
 - Ability to work proactively and in a self-directed manner to foster an atmosphere of trust and respect, to promote awareness of early learning issues and to promote and market the Preschool program as required.
 - Knowledge of child development, family dynamics, community resources and supports for early learning.
 - Ability to keep accurate records using an electronic device.
 - Ability to maintain the confidentiality of sensitive information seen or heard.
 - A current class 5 drivers' license.
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Additional Requirements

- Preference will be given to Early Childhood Educators of Indigenous Ancestry.
- Demonstrated experience as a respected Early Childhood Educator and cultural practitioner of Indigenous values and traditions.
- Successful Early Childhood Educator classroom experience and/or Practicum experience in a Preschool setting.
- Evidence of specialized training, or working experience, in a Band governed educational environment.
- Knowledge and understanding of Snuneymuxw culture, customs, and traditions, including land based teachings.
- Knowledge and ability to teach and integrate Hulquminum language into daily lessons.
- Knowledge, understanding, and ability to teach in a manner that reflects the Calls to Action as set forth by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- Knowledge of current developments and initiatives in Indigenous ways of teaching, learning, and knowing.
- Demonstrated Early Childhood Educator experience working with Indigenous students who, given a history of generational trauma, may present with academic, social/emotional, behavioural, and/or mental health needs.
- Demonstrated ability to work within a system of classroom and school-wide positive behavioural support, restorative practices, and strengths-based or growth mindset models.
- Demonstrated characteristics of patience, optimism, and genuine care for Indigenous students and culture, with high expectations for students to succeed academically, socially, emotionally and behaviorally.
- Demonstrated ability to work in a highly collaborative team-based culture.
- Training and/or experience with literacy and numeracy strategies that have been proven to be successful at the Early Childhood level.
- Demonstrated experiences and superior skills working with students with a wide range of competency levels and learning styles.
- Demonstrated proficiency to work with staff, colleagues, parents and students in knowledge producing and knowledge sharing.
- Demonstrated ability to maintain skills through professional learning.
- Demonstrated commitment to being an Early Childhood Educator who has the ability to think strategically and help shape new programs.

- Demonstrated record of superior interpersonal and communication skills.
- Demonstrated record of effective organizational, planning and time management skills.
- Demonstrated skills to effectively enhance a culture that emphasizes the necessity for teamwork.
- Please note that QQS resides on the Snuneymuxw reserve land. Any individuals who work in this school may be subject to the Snuneymuxw First Nation's discretion with respect to coming onto their land.

2019.09.13 (*Interim*)

School District 68 (Nanaimo – Ladysmith Public Schools)