

Gulf Islands Secondary School
Creativity | Learning | Community
2025-26 School Plan

Goal Area: Deepening Learning

Deepening Learning focuses our shared work on meaningful learning experiences and outcomes. It centres learning at the intersection of mastery, identity, and creativity. As a school-wide equity strategy, it ensures all learners access challenging, relevant, and engaging learning opportunities.

Theory of Action:

When learners immerse themselves in learning that:

- ***develops deep expertise (mastery),***
- ***connects to who they are and want to be (identity), and***
- ***empowers them to design and create meaningful, original work (creativity),***

*they **build relationships, strengthen connections, and become active agents of their own deep and purposeful learning.***

Focusing Direction

Building on past school plans focused on meaningful, equitable learning environments, the Deepening Learning goal area sharpens the focus of learning experiences. This work aims to enhance the quality of learning at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

Collaborative Cultures

We will continue to create focused, collaborative opportunities for staff to engage in learning that mirrors the deeper learning we seek for students. Staff will act as agents of their own professional growth—developing expertise, reflecting on their practice, and designing meaningful new approaches. Staff meetings will anchor this work, alongside collaboration, peer-to-peer coaching, mentoring, and the integration of new strategies into daily teaching. A Deepening Learning steering committee or leadership team will help guide and sustain this work, fostering shared ownership and long-term growth.

Deeper Learning

Staff will build skills in designing learning that develops deep expertise, connects to student identity, and fosters meaningful creation. Through collaboration, analysis of student work, and shared strategies, staff will strengthen their ability to create these experiences. Students will develop critical thinking, reflection, and creative problem-

solving skills as they engage in learning that positions them as active agents of their own deep and purposeful learning.

Four Collective Actions for Deeper Learning

To guide deeper learning for all learners—students and staff—we point to these shared actions:

- *We create work that shows who we are.*
- *We learn through place-based, real-world, hands-on projects.*
- *We take risks, keep trying, and use feedback.*
- *We reflect often and grow from experience.*

These actions will anchor our work, shaping how we learn, teach, and grow together.

Securing Accountability

We use multiple levels of data—provincial, district, school, classroom, and individual. We will continue improving how we collect, analyze, share, and use ‘street-level’ data that reflects the real experiences of students, staff, and families. Measuring learner engagement, Core Competencies, and Deeper Learning experiences and outcomes will help track our progress toward this goal area.