



**ASPENGROVE**  
SCHOOL

# Reimagined - Next Steps: 2025 - 2030



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## A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL & BOARD CHAIR

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Dear Aspengrove Community,

It is time to grow our school. Grow our programs. Grow our experiences. Grow our impact. It is our mission to ensure that our students are prepared to be resilient, confident, caring and impactful leaders in an increasingly complex and uncertain world.

We know education is the sum of all experiences and every experience matters, both inside and outside of the classroom. For Aspengrove to become a world class school, we must ensure that our students find engagement and purpose while learning to work within a caring and diverse environment. We must also ensure that every student is known for their own potential and destiny and that we create personalized pathways towards their future success.

We are excited to share with you our plans for the future. Over the coming years, we will take great strides towards achieving the purpose of Aspengrove School - to become a world-class school for Central Vancouver Island!

### *Where did we come from?*

Aspengrove was established just over 20 years ago by a group of community members who aspired to offer their children and future children a world-class school, right here in the Central Island. Their energy and commitment laid the foundation for Aspengrove to take the next steps in fulfilling this vision.

Where are we going?

What is a world-class school? Across Canada you will find schools that have established themselves within their city, **creating the future leaders of their community**. These schools do so because of a focused commitment to **outstanding academics, exemplary experiences, the development of character, and a vibrant community**.

Aspengrove Reimagined: Next Steps 2025-2030 is our plan to achieve these goals for our current and future students, so that Aspengrove will grow into its place within our growing city.

Sincerely,

**Gary Kern**, Head of School & **Iain McIver**, Board Chair



## Step 1: Exemplary Experiences

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A World Class School recognizes that learning happens inside AND outside of the classroom, and our commitment is to grow and develop our student programs, co-curriculars, clubs, and experiences at all levels of the school.

Our promise is to ensure every student is engaged inside and outside of the classroom.

Some of our initiatives include:

**Lunch Program:** Building community is supported by eating together, and we are working to create a program that will provide our students with a healthy food program, from JK-12. More to come!

**Clubs and Activities (K-7):** Recognizing the importance of the Arts and Technology, we will introduce additional clubs and courses that activate our students' creativity and critical thinking skills.

**Co-Curricular Programs (8-12):** Building off of the introduction of our athletics, arts, and academic clubs, students in Grades 8-12 will be asked to engage in a minimum of two co-curricular activities each year (and we will be adding a 5pm bus as well!)

**House Program:** Cedar, Arbutus and Oak will have more opportunities to engage in activities throughout the year. During the spring, our new House Logo will be developed to bring a renewed sense of pride to our Houses.

**Celebrations and Competitions:** Arts and Athletics need their time to shine, and we will be bringing back an annual Theater Production and introducing Arts Week - our opportunity to celebrate the arts at Aspengrove.



## Step 2: Personalized Academic Excellence

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Aspengrove is not a big school, and we will never be the size of a public school - that is our biggest strength! Our opportunity is that we can ensure every student is challenged, and supported, to achieve their personal best.



Our promise is that every student is challenged and supported academically.

### **At the Junior and Middle School:**

Introducing a Literacy and Numeracy standard will provide students and parents with a clear understanding of skills and growth. Literacy and Numeracy are the foundation of academic success and our goal is to be the leaders in Literacy and Numeracy improvement.

### **At the Senior School:**

The introduction of the Pathways Program for Grades 8 - 10 has provided the foundation for every student to identify their goals and pathway towards graduation and beyond. Beginning in the spring of 2025, all Grade 10 students will have individual meetings with our academic team (Principal and University Counsellor) to map the pathway to graduation.

Graduation Program Re-Imagined: We have heard clearly the need for more options and opportunities for our students, and our re-imagined Graduation Program will begin in Grade 10 and provide our senior students with a Graduation Program that best suits their interests and needs. Following the model used by many of the top schools across Canada, increased flexibility will ensure our students are prepared for university and beyond. We are moving away from the Diploma Programme model, but replacing it with courses and programming that will allow all our students to thrive in their final years at Aspengrove. [More details of our Graduation Program are available HERE.](#)

## Step 3: Global Leadership

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Education is an investment in the future, and it is our promise to ensure that every graduate from Aspengrove has developed the knowledge, skills, disposition and character to make a positive impact on their future community.

Leadership can be simply defined as “making a positive difference.” Beginning in the Junior School, our students must develop the character of responsibility, care, empathy and action. Instilling values and high standards will provide our students with the foundation and confidence to build upon the Middle and Senior Years, ensuring our students will make a positive difference during their time at Aspengrove and beyond.

Why Global? Our future is increasingly complex and uncertain, and for one to be a leader in the future they will need to have a deep understanding of our world and an appreciation of other cultures.



Beginning in the 2025-26 School Year, Aspengrove is committed to:

- Grade 8: Hosting at least one school group from a visiting country. Families will be asked to provide a 5 - 10 day homestay experience, opening up your homes (if possible) to help your child learn about other cultures while sharing our culture with others.
- Grade 9: Beginning in the fall of 2025, our Grade 9 Classes will be invited to participate in an international class exchange, traveling as a group to another IB School and learning about their culture, firsthand. Grade 9 trips will be 10 - 14 days in length.
- Grade 10: Students in Grade 10 for the 2025-26 will be invited to participate in an international class exchange OR participate in an individual international exchange. It is our hope that every Grade 10 student experiences an exchange which will be the culmination of the Global Leadership Program.

In future years, we will grow our Leadership Program to include the Junior and Middle School and connect the Global Leadership Program to our Graduation Program (Grade 11 and 12). Utilizing our Primary Years and Middle Years IB Curriculum, we will expand opportunities to learn about leadership concepts and put them into action.

## Aspengrove Reimagined - Now What

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In the coming months further details will be shared at each of the three schools about how we are supporting our next steps: exceptional experiences, global leadership, and personalized academic excellence goals.

As parents, you can help by leaning further into our community. Consider joining the APA. Come to our many community events throughout the year. Most importantly, continue to support your child to become the best version of themselves. This is the work that we all do on a daily basis, providing our children with a caring, respectful, and engaging educational experience.

Together, we will see Aspengrove Grow!



**Please enjoy this short video featuring Dr. Kern, teachers, and students about the exciting future of Aspengrove.**

