

Rationale

Dedicated instructional time for purposeful relationship building and social emotional learning.

Connections (formally known as Advisory) is not a 'block' in the schedule but rather woven into the routines, lessons and practices in the classroom.

Connections aligns with the work of Core Competencies in Middle School-- notice, name and nurture

Not 'a time of day'...all of the time

Responsibilities

Classroom Teachers (Core & Elective)

- Daily intention to build connections and relationships with and between students to foster a sense of belonging
- Integrate social emotional learning into routines and lessons

Support Teachers/Support Staff

- Support with lessons and resources
- Tier 2 support
- Team teaching

Principals/Vice-Principals

- Assembly themes aligned with SEL
- Mámale (formally known as WEB)

MIDDLE SCHOOL PILLAR: CONNECTIONS

Examples of Resources & Supports

- [Mental Health Literacy Kits](#)
- Restorative Justice
 - [OWN-IT](#)
 - [School Restorative Circles](#)
 - [Individualized Peace Circles](#)
- [Core Competencies-reflections and goal-setting](#)
- [Calendar of Cultural & Significant Events](#)
- [Well-Being BC](#)
 - School Toolkit
 - Mental Health Literacy & Trauma-Informed Practices
- [CASEL-Social Emotional Learning in the Classroom](#)

Opportunities

- Monthly planning meeting during Student Support Time
- Share strategies, lessons and initiatives at staff meetings to build cohesion across the school
- [Core Competencies-reflections and goal-setting](#)
- Align themes with [Calendar of Cultural & Significant Events](#)
- Align themes of Connections, SEL school-wide initiatives and assemblies
- Take Action Projects or Class Challenges
- Mental Health in Schools Strategy
- Integrate with Physical Health Education
- Connections can be the first steps in building student voice