

**SCHOOL:** Seaview Elementary

**YEAR:** 2024-2025

**PRINCIPAL:** Lindsey Watford



## OUR SCHOOL

Nestled in the heart of the Lantzville community, Seaview School resides on the unceded, traditional territory of Snaw Naw As First Nation. With the ocean just a short walk away, the school embraces a profound commitment to learning from the land, instilling a strong sense of environmental stewardship within its students and dedicated staff members. At Seaview, education extends beyond the classroom as students engage in hands-on learning experiences that foster a deep appreciation for nature and Indigenous language and culture, cultivating a holistic understanding of their place in the world. We are also a Waste Free school and participate in an Energy Cup challenge each year to collectively work as a team to reduce our energy consumption and the amount we contribute to the landfill each year.

At Seaview School, the connection between staff and students is paramount. Many of our staff members live within the community, further strengthening the bond between school and home. With a shared dedication to fostering a sense of belonging and connection, every member of our team is committed to ensuring that students and families feel supported, valued, and empowered to thrive. Through collaborative efforts and a nurturing environment, Seaview School strives to cultivate not only an environment where all students' academic needs are met, but also a sense of community, empathy, and responsibility towards each other and the environment.

With 274 students and over 30 staff, Seaview is a busy, diverse, and caring place to learn and grow. Our student body comprises a dynamic blend of individuals from different cultural backgrounds, creating a vibrant learning

## OUR SCHOOL GOALS

### Student Success

Increase literacy success rates for all students

Increase student success through explicit and systematic differentiated reading instruction.

### Truth and Reconciliation

Increase awareness of and access to resources available to support hul'q'umi'num language learning

To grow environmental stewardship through the connections between Hul'qumi'num language, culture, and land-based learning.

### Select a Board Goal

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## OUR CELEBRATION STORY

Seaview's celebration story is woven together with our commitment and journey towards Truth and Reconciliation as we work to revive the Hul'q'umi'num language and incorporate Indigenous ways of learning into our Land-Based Learning classes. The success has been evident with our staff and students as they grow their Hul'q'umi'num language skills through weekly classes. In addition to classes, many students belong to a Culture Group where they have the opportunity to connect with Indigenous ways of learning, speaking and singing in a deeper way.

Some of the activities and events from last year at Seaview were:

Creating a class set of Drums- our SeaPAC supported teachers to participate in a drum making class. The teachers each made a drum and gifted it to the school. Students use these drums to learn songs and perform at ceremonies and celebrations. Our staff recently had the opportunity to use the drums as a group as we sang the Hul'q'umi'num Welcome Song together.

We acquired 12 wooden Paddles - These paddles are used to teach the boys in the Culture Group the Paddle Dance or Welcome Snuneymuxw dance. The boys participate in the dance during cultural events and assemblies.

Seaview was gifted with beautiful red shawls and vests. Each item has our new Orca image on the back. These were handmade by a grandparent of a student in the Culture group who volunteered her time and materials. These shawls and vest are worn during special celebration songs and presentations such as the Tuxusthamsh (Share your Culture) Gathering, Orange Shirt day, Remembrance Day and Indigenous Day.

Our Culture group has been learning about Weaving Cedar. This is a traditional skill used in many territories. Students are learning about soaking and splitting cedar and the multiple purposes behind using it. They are participating in making hats and headbands using various weaving styles and gifting them to one another.

Our Hul'q'umi'num Language Teacher has brought both small and large looms into the Culture Room. Students are learning the art of Musqueam weaving creating 2 blankets. This technique was revised by Musqueam women in 1984.

Our Culture Group students in grade 7 this year will be taking their Hul'q'umi'num language to the next level by creating a series of cooking videos all spoken in Hul'q'umi'num.

Lastly, Seaview's School Garden was completed in Spring 2023 and enjoyed by each class. This beautiful garden is filled with Hul'q'umi'num words, phrases, and art. It is used to host Cultural Ceremonies and for our planting projects.