



Moncton High School's Value-Based Approach to Educating Youth for a Sustainable World into the 21st Century and Beyond

We are excited to invite you to become a community partner as we implement Education for Sustainable Development at Moncton High School. We are hoping that this document will give an overview of our initiative and explain ESD as a value-based framework which will raise levels of responsibility, consciousness, wellness and empathy in our students. We are seeking community partners to join us & contribute to the success of ESD at MHS. We are happy to acknowledge and recognize our community partners. Please contact us if you are willing to help in one of the following ways:

- Submitting a project idea (how can our students serve you & the community)
- Willingness to present (one 60 – minute session pro bono) in an area complementing one of our four core values (caring, diversity, environment, living simply)
- Supporting us through financial donation

Philosophy of ESD & Implementation at MHS

The goal of education for sustainable development (ESD), as stated by the United Nations, is for educators around the world to *help people develop the attitudes, skills, and knowledge to make informed decisions for the benefit of themselves and others, now and for the future, and to act upon those decisions.*

ESD is an approach to teaching and learning based on the ideals and principles that underlie sustainability –

1. *human rights, poverty reduction, sustainable livelihoods, peace, democracy*
2. *environmental protection, health, biological and landscape diversity, climate change,*
3. *protection of cultural diversity, sexual orientation, gender equality, and protection of indigenous cultures*

In these and many other dimensions, education for sustainable development is analogous with the vision and goals of UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

Moncton High School, a charter member of the Fundy Biosphere Reserve, has developed a model for implementing ESD within schools by using a value-based framework. The values are ***caring, diversity, environment and living simply***. We will use the above UNESCO ideals and principles as a guide to establish specific targets.



Similar to the RCE's (Resource Centers for Expertise) that the United Nations University has established all over the world, Moncton High will implement the program with the core elements of:

1. Governance,
2. Collaboration,
3. Research, and
4. Transformative education.

Truly, the MHS staff is embarking on an ambitious and exciting initiative this upcoming year: Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). Our focus will be on the engagement of learning through the wellness of our school and greater community. We are attempting to raise levels of responsibility, consciousness, wellness and empathy in our students. There are three parts to this initiative: an overall "overhaul" of philosophy and focus, guest speakers/presenters from our community and practical application of at least a 30 min session each day that allows students to participate in a variety of activities centered on our four core values of *caring, diversity, environment and living simply*.

As the details of this initiative come together, we have established a broad, three-year timeline:

2011/2012

- ESD Pilot Year
- Pilot daily ESD student sessions based on four core values of caring, diversity, environment and living simply
- Four rounds of presentations with our community partners, each one centered on one of the four core values
- Groups formed to head ESD 'pillars': teachers, students, community, outside professionals
- Groups collect research
- Structure determined and designed
- Measurement mechanisms determined
- Reflection & Assessment leading into Stage One implementation

2012/2013

- Pilot projects and presentations continued
- Stage One Implementation
- Data gathering
- Reach out to local schools; recruit & grow



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- Reflect and adjust
- Secure speakers and partnerships to plan for Stage Two

2013/2014 – Celebrate ten year birthday of UNESCO’s Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

- Stage Two Full Implementation
- Hold a major provincial/national youth and educator conference on Education for Sustainable Development
- Guest speakers (local, provincial, national and beyond)

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