



Temporary District Principal, Aboriginal Education

**Effective: ASAP to June 30, 2020 or return of incumbent
(due to ministry secondment)**

An exciting opportunity for an exceptional educational leader to join our dynamic team.

Situated in the beautiful Cowichan Valley on southern Vancouver Island, the Cowichan Valley School District serves a population of almost 8,000 students. We are honoured to be learning on the ancestral and unceded territories of the Quw'utsun, Malahat, Stz'uminus, Penelakut, Halalt, Lake Cowichan and Lyakson peoples. Our district extends north to Saltair, south to Spectacle Lake on the Malahat, and west to the Lake Cowichan region. The school district has approximately 1,300 employees, 22 schools, and over \$100 million annual budget.

The Cowichan School District seeks applications from outstanding educational leaders for the position of District Principal Aboriginal Education. The District Principal is an integral member of the educational leadership team which includes the superintendent, associate superintendents, directors and district principals. This team has overall responsibility for supporting success for all students.

You will use your passion and profound knowledge of innovative educational programs to amplify the voice and agency of the local Aboriginal communities, bringing forward new ideas and inspiring all members of the organization to create and sustain school environments that optimize learning for all, including each and every Aboriginal learner.

It will be vital that you have existing strong alliances and trusting partnerships with local Aboriginal communities and external community and provincial organizations. As the champion for this program, you will articulate a clear vision for aboriginal education, motivating and inspiring others to strive and meet shared district/community goals. Collaborative, courageous and culturally attuned, you are able to break down complex concepts and present them in a consistent and engaging manner. You lead by positive example and have the ethical courage to work through challenges in a productive and respectful manner.

You have a post-graduate degree in education, at least at the Master's level with a minimum of five years' experience in a leadership role. Creative, innovative and resourceful, you are able to empower others, identifying their strengths and provide them with opportunities to excel.

You have an unwavering commitment to excellence in Aboriginal education, based on research and a profound understanding of Aboriginal history and Aboriginal world view.

Ideal candidates will demonstrate the following professional qualities and personal skills:

- A deep understanding of the Cowichan Valley local Aboriginal Peoples and their students;
- A deep knowledge of, and appreciation for Aboriginal culture in our schools and community;
- A strong knowledge and experience-base in working with Aboriginal learners and communities;
- A record of advocacy for students with Aboriginal heritage;
- A strong commitment to the effective implementation of Hul'q'umi'num, as it relates to language classes within various schools in the district;
- A deep understanding of the First Peoples Principles of Learning and how these find expression in our local context and throughout the new provincial curriculum;
- A high degree of professional credibility;
- Exceptional formal and informal leadership experience;
- A successful record as a systems change agent;

- A demonstrated ability to use evidence to inform strategic directions;
- A demonstrated skill in building trusting relationships with colleagues and with the community in support of a respectful and inclusive environment where culture, learning and success are all important;
- Superior interpersonal and communications skills;
- A demonstrated ability to collaboratively problem-solve complex matters; and
- A commitment to professionalism and to working in a collaborative environment.

For further information about this exciting career opportunity, please contact Superintendent Rod Allen at 250-748-0321, Ext. 215.

Outstanding leaders who wish to be considered are invited to submit a cover letter, detailed resume with three current professional references/letters of recommendation to:

Rod Allen, Superintendent
Cowichan Valley School District
2557 Beverly Street, Duncan, BC V9L 2X3
Email: tjones@sd79.bc.ca

The deadline for applications is 12:00 p.m., February 22, 2019. We thank all applicants for their interest, but only those selected to proceed in the recruitment process will be contacted.