

The Last Word

The role of a Principal and Vice-Principal in British Columbia is becoming more and more complex, while at the same time more and more valued within our sector and the larger community.

As school leaders, Principals and Vice-Principals genuinely value each and every student in their care. They have a crucial role in providing the needed supports to students and families, and they ensure that school staff have the resources they require to deliver the curriculum in a way that is inclusive while meeting the unique needs of each student. They base decisions on district policy and – alongside numerous other factors and documents – on the Professional Standards for BC Educators and the First Peoples Principles of Learning.



Professional Standards
for BC Educators



First Peoples Principles
of Learning

BC Principals and Vice-Principals are the ambassadors of the BC education system. They are held to a high standard and have an essential leadership role within the education community. They seek to lead with humility; they act as stewards of the future; they understand the diverse community context in which they lead; and, ultimately, they bridge policy and practice, and are the liaison between the needs of families and the district, and the existing structures and supports within our education system.

Magdalena Kassis
Acting Executive Director
BCPVPA

Whether as school or district level leaders, Principals and Vice-Principals model fiduciary responsibility and professionalism. They coach and support their new and aspiring colleagues and sustain a collaborative community of practice.

These are important yet complex expectations, and the BC Principals' & Vice-Principals' Association is here to provide all needed supports and resources to members to ensure they can thrive in their roles. The BCPVPA's 2023-2026 Strategic Plan reflects the increased and varying needs of Principals and Vice-Principals, with a focus of objectives, supports, and resources in the following areas:



BCPVPA 2023-2026
Strategic Plan

- Reconciliation, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Employment Equity
- Leadership Development
- Member Health
- Respected Voice



A Crucial Role

The role of Principal and Vice-Principal has a lot of moving parts, yet the work is so rewarding. We recognize that the needs of each of our 2700+ members are unique and evolving, and we strive to provide a range of supports for our members so that they may achieve a sense of success in their roles.

Members are strongly encouraged to engage with the Association to enhance their professional competency journey. Some ways to engage include:

- Register for one of the many Professional Learning opportunities



- Reach out to Member Support Services for any confidential employment-related support



- Consider signing up for the Wel-Tel program at no cost by contacting the BCPVPA Director of Member Health and Well-being: rochelle@bcpvpa.bc.ca

- Read the weekly e-News for updated information about resources and opportunities available to members

- Encourage colleagues who aspire to leadership to participate in the Explorations for Aspiring School Leaders program, to help support continued growth and capacity within our profession



- Participate in meetings and events in your local Chapter

- Participate in BCPVPA surveys when they are issued – ensure that your voice is heard, and that the Association can best advocate for all members

- Check the My BCPVPA member portal regularly for resources and member-related information



Members are encouraged to reach out when needed. Our team is here to help bridge the complexity of the role with the supports and resources that will help BC Principals and Vice-Principals to lead into the future with both confidence and humility.

bcp vpa

