



Calgary Changemaker School



LEADERSHIP. EMPATHY. OUTDOOR LEARNING.

A new school.

A new approach to
education.

Where the whole child
comes **first**, academic
excellence soon
follows.

We are a high-energy school for the creative personalities, sensitive dreamers and busy innovators.

Through plenty of time outdoors and a passionate school community that shares an approach to education rooted in **empathy, wellness and hands-on exploration** we are proud to offer a unique educational experience designed to inspire changemaking and innovation and to develop creative and empathetic leaders.

**Opening
September 2020
Grades K-6**

**Grades 7 & 8 will be offered in
2021-2022*



ADMISSIONS.

We are looking for 'best fit families' who value and embrace our vision, mission and educational philosophy.



We are a secular not-for-profit independent school that welcomes families from all backgrounds, family structures, faiths and belief systems *who are open to learning from one another. Tuition can be found on our website.*

We **can** provide excellent accommodations and supports for both advanced and typical learners as well as:

- students coded as **Gifted**
- students with mild **Attention-Deficit or Hyperactivity**
- students with mild/moderate **Anxiety**

**All students should be able and willing to spend a portion of each day outdoors in most weather conditions.*

Due to limited resources, we are unable to accommodate students requiring supports beyond a 1:16 teacher-student ratio including those with moderate-severe behavioural or learning challenges, those with a history of oppositional defiance, aggression or physical violence, students who pose a flight risk or those facing medical fragility.

**APPLY NOW AT:
www.CalgaryChangemakerSchool.com/APPLY**



THE NEED.

70% OF MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES START IN CHILDHOOD

"Mental health issues are the single largest health problem facing young people in Canada today. With one in five children and teenagers struggling with conditions such as anxiety, depression and eating disorders... the demand for services is higher than our health system can accommodate." - Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation, 2019

"Attention-deficit / hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is the most commonly diagnosed behavioral disorder among children, with diagnosis rates ranging from 8 to 12 percent in OECD countries" (Biederman and Faraone, 2006). However, according to a study completed at the University of Michigan, over 1 million children in North America are potentially misdiagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder each year simply because they are the youngest -in their elementary classes and/or the classroom expectations are not developmentally appropriate

(Elder, 2010).

Giftedness, also known as Asynchronous Cognitive Development, is another reason why students struggle in traditional classrooms. Gifted students often have at least one academic area where they are very advanced compared to their same-aged peers but they typically lag behind in other areas of development such as social-emotional learning. A national study conducted by the Fordham Institute found that 58% of teachers have received no professional development focused on teaching Gifted or academically advanced students and 73% of teachers agreed that "too often, the brightest students are bored and under-challenged in school" leading to underachievement, behaviour challenges, attention issues and increased anxiety and depression (Farkas & Duffet, 2008).



THE RESPONSE.



*"Research in a growing scientific field called **ecotherapy** has shown a strong connection between time spent in nature and reduced stress, anxiety, and depression."* - Harvard Health Publishing, 2018

- Students will have '**choice, voice and challenge**' in their learning.
- We are committed to creating **safe spaces** for students to **explore their interests** and **express their individuality and creativity**.
- Much of our learning will take place **outdoors and in nature**.
- **Health and wellness** is infused into the curriculum and daily school life.
- **Empathy and Changemaking** is at the heart of all we do: listen first, seek to understand, work together to solve problems.
- Everyone in our school community has the **right to express their opinions** and **be heard**.
- Learning, both indoors and outdoors, will be **active, engaging and hands-on**.
- We will offer **small class sizes** and **low student to teacher ratios**.

"Research clearly shows that smaller class sizes allow for higher levels of student engagement, increased time with the curriculum and more opportunities for teachers to focus on the individual needs and interests of students in the classroom."

-Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA). 2014. *Report of The Blue Ribbon Panel on Inclusive Education*. Government of Alberta. 2013. *Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS) 2013*.



Learning Outdoors

A portion of **each** school day will be spent actively learning outdoors.

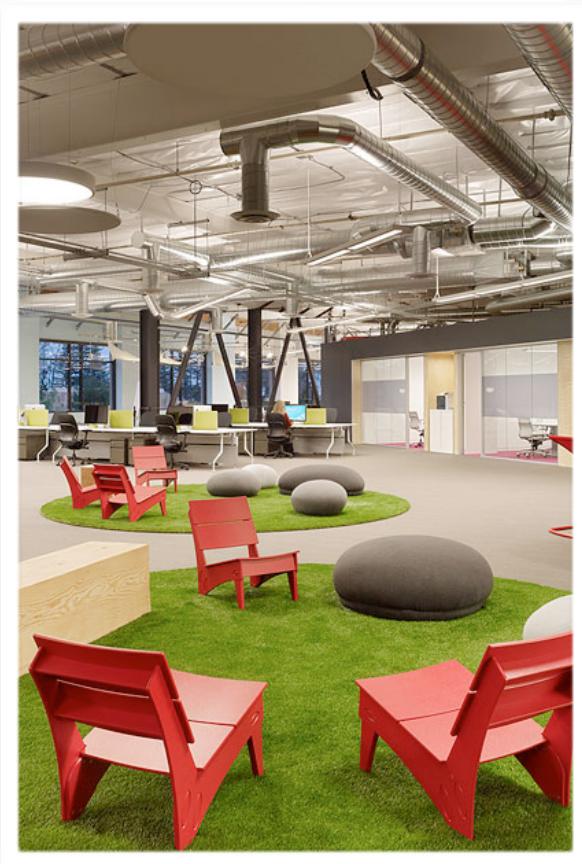
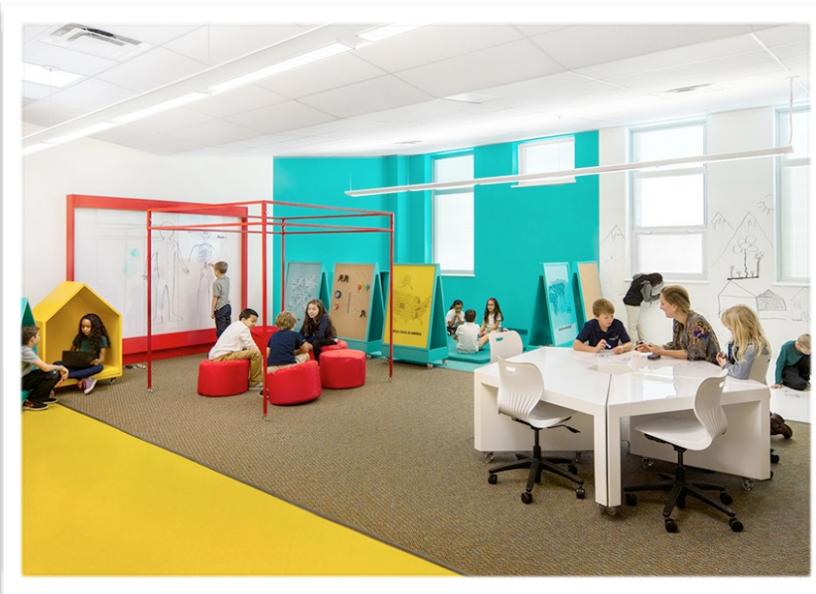


Every Wednesday is ‘Wellness Wednesday’: students will choose from a variety of wellness activities and ‘choice clubs’ in the morning and will spend the afternoon off-campus on a field trip or in a forest-school environment.



Learning Indoors

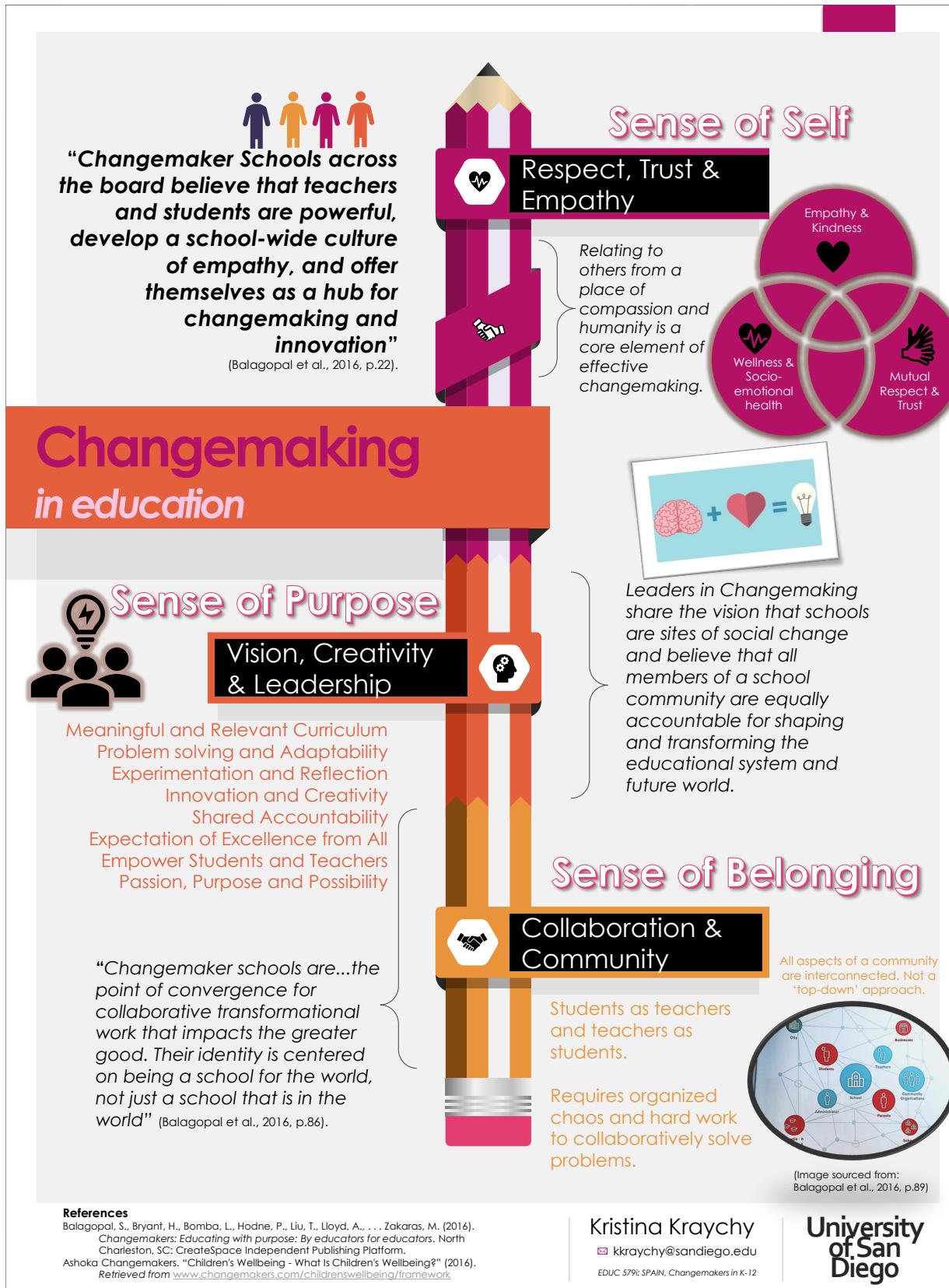
Indoor spaces will be flexible to promote creativity, collaboration and movement.



Low-sensory areas (sound-dampening booths and breakout rooms) will help those who need or prefer quiet spaces to work.

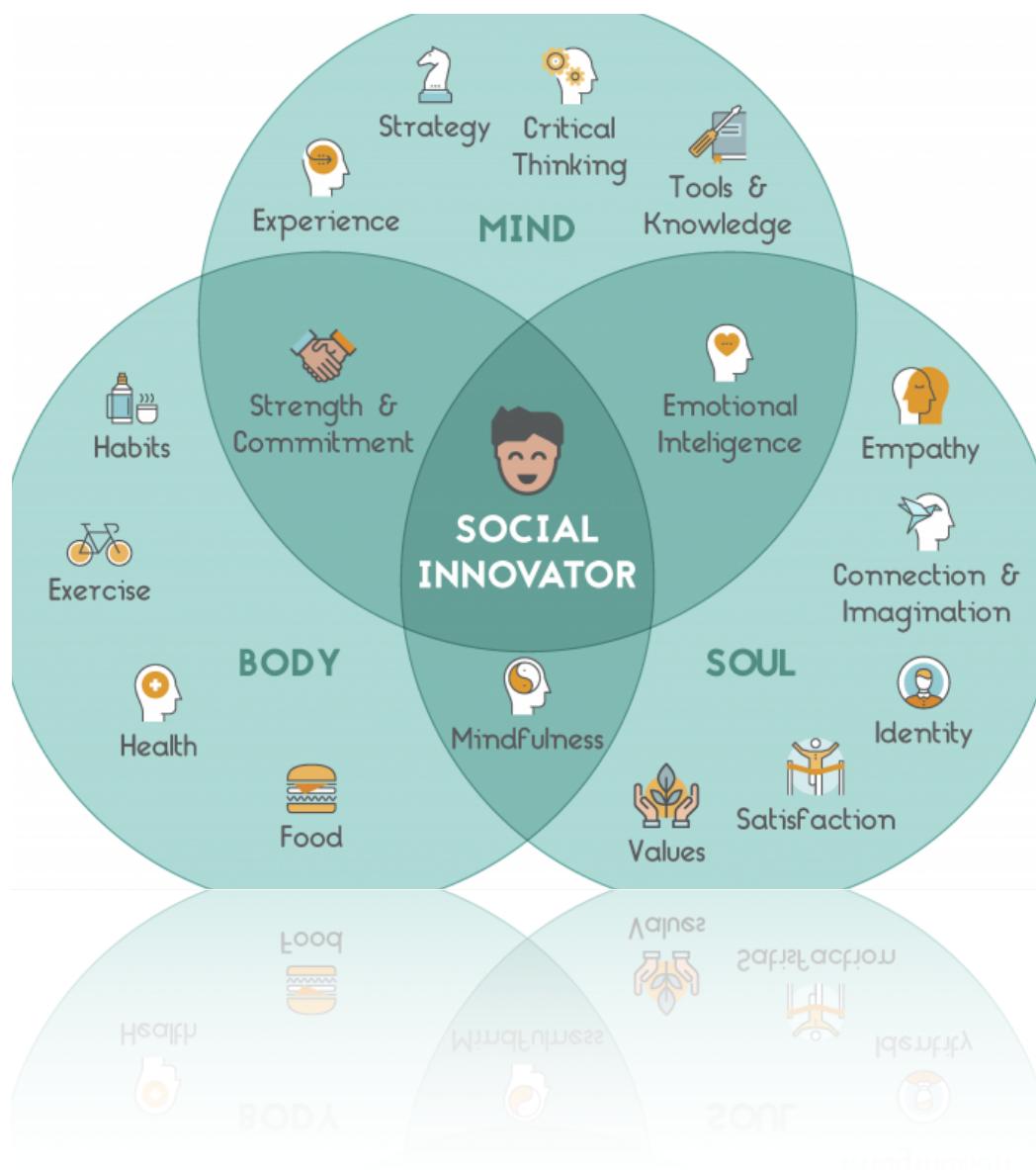


CHANGEMAKER SCHOOLS



"Empathy is the capacity to so clearly understand how others experience the world that their reactions make sense to us, and we begin to share their emotional response". -Madeleine Van Hecke

EMPATHETIC LEADERSHIP.



AT CALGARY CHANGEMAKER SCHOOL WE BELIEVE THAT...

All people have the right to be treated with empathy, respect and dignity irrespective of age, gender, ethnicity, status, ability or sexual orientation.

Children have the right to feel safe at school.

Children have the right to be offered 'choice, voice and challenge' and to express their opinions and be heard.

Children have the right to move throughout the day, to take breaks as needed and to spend time learning and playing outdoors every day.

Children have the right to an education that is flexible, interesting and meaningful.

Children have the right to be taught by caring, passionate and excellent educators who will help each student to learn according to their individual abilities and skill-levels.



WHO WE ARE.

Kristina Kraychy
B.Mus., B.Ed., C.H.N.C., M.Ed. candidate
Founder, Head of School

Annie Lougheed
B.A., B.Ed.
Co-founder, Leadership Team

Cam Kraychy
B.Sc., M.B.A.
Co-Founder, CFO

Jennifer Michaleski
M.A., Registered Clinical Counsellor, Canadian
Certified Counsellor, C.Hyp.
Director

Read more about us at:
[www.calgarychangemakerschool.com/founders](http://www.calgarychangemakerschool.com-founders)



CONNECT.

Kristina Kraychy:
403.870.2327

Cam Kraychy:
403.804.1900

info@calgarychangemakerschool.com
www.CalgaryChangemakerSchool.com



@calgarychangemakerschool

