

# SCHOOL DISTRICT 19 **REVELSTOKE** SCHOOL DISTRICT & COMMUNITY REPORT







2015/2016 GRADE 7 RESULTS



#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The MDI team would like to extend its warmest appreciation to the students, teachers and administrators who made this project possible. Thank you for your participation.

MDI research is made possible with funding from the United Way of the Lower Mainland (UWLM) and school districts across BC. We would like to thank and acknowledge the UWLM and all participating school districts for their support and collaboration on this project.

HELP's Middle Years research is led by Dr. Kimberly Schonert-Reichl. HELP acknowledges Dr. Schonert-Reichl for her leadership in social and emotional development research, her dedication to exploring children's experiences in the middle years and for raising the profile of children's voices, locally and internationally.

HELP faculty and staff would also like to acknowledge our Founding Director, Dr. Clyde Hertzman, whose life's work is a legacy for the institute's research. He continues to inspire and guide our work and will always be celebrated as 'a mentor to all who walked with him.'

For more information please contact HELP's MDI Project Coordinator: Email: mdi@help.ubc.ca Website: earlylearning.ubc.ca/mdi



#### ABOUT THE HUMAN EARLY LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

The Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) is an interdisciplinary research institute, based at the School of Population and Public Health at the University of British Columbia. The institute was founded by Dr. Clyde Hertzman in 1999.

HELP's unique partnership brings together researchers and practitioners from across BC, Canada and internationally to address complex child development issues. HELP's many research projects explore how different environments and experiences contribute to health and social inequities in children's development over their life course. To learn more please visit our website at **earlylearning.ubc.ca**.

#### Suggested citation

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### SCHOOL DISTRICT & COMMUNITY REPORT

### 2015/2016 GRADE 7 MDI

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#### WHY THE MIDDLE YEARS MATTER

Experiences in the middle years, ages 6 to 12, have critical and long lasting effects. They are powerful predictors of adolescent adjustment and future success. During this time, children are experiencing significant cognitive, social and emotional changes that establish their lifelong identity and set the stage for adolescence and adulthood. The overall health and well-being of children in their middle years affects their ability to concentrate and learn, develop and maintain friendships, and make thoughtful decisions.

Early adolescent children have an increased awareness of themselves and others. During middle childhood they are developing ideas about how they may or may not "fit in" to their social and academic environments. These ideas have the power to either promote health and academic achievement or lead to negative outcomes such as depression and anxiety in adolescence and adulthood. Although middle childhood is a time of risk, it is also a time of opportunity. There is mounting evidence to suggest that positive relationships with adults and peers during this critical time act to increase a child's resiliency and success.

#### ABOUT THE MIDDLE YEARS DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT

The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) is a self-report questionnaire that asks children in Grade 4 and Grade 7 about their thoughts, feelings and experiences in school and in the community. The MDI is not an assessment for individual children. Instead, it is a unique and comprehensive population-based measure that helps us gain a deeper understanding of children's health and well-being during middle childhood. Researchers at the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) are using results from the MDI to understand the factors that promote children's social-emotional health and well-being. In addition, the MDI is being used to inform policy and practice and support collaboration across education, health and community sectors.

The MDI uses a strengths-based approach to assess five areas of development that are strongly linked to children's well-being, health and academic achievement. It focuses on highlighting the protective factors and assets that are known to support and optimize development in middle childhood. These areas are: **Social and Emotional Development**, **Physical Health and Well-Being**, **Connectedness**, **Use of After-School Time** and **School Experiences**. Each of these dimensions is made up of several measures and each measure is made up of one or more questions.

Combining select measures from the MDI helps us paint a fuller picture of children's overall well-being and the assets that contribute to their healthy development. The results for key MDI measures are summarized by two indices:

- **The Well-Being Index** consists of measures relating to children's physical health and social and emotional development that are of critical importance during the middle years: Optimism, Self-Esteem, Happiness, Absence of Sadness and General Health.
- The Assets Index consists of measures of key assets that help to promote children's positive development and well-being. Assets are resources and influences present in children's lives such as supportive relationships and enriching activities. The MDI measures four types of assets: Adult Relationships, Peer Relationships, Nutrition and Sleep, and After-School Activities.

The chart below illustrates the relationship between MDI dimensions and measures, and highlights which measures contribute to the Well-Being and Assets Indices.



#### SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### MEASURES

- Optimism
  Empathy
  Prosocial Behaviour
- Self-Esteem
- Happiness
- Absence of Sadness
   Absence of Worries
   Self-Regulation
   (Short & Long Term)
   \*Responsible
   Decision-Making
   \*Self-Awareness
  - \*Perseverance
  - \*Assertiveness
  - \*Citizenship and Social Responsibility
  - \* Grade 7 only

PHYSICAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING

#### MEASURES

- General Health
- Eating BreakfastMeals with
- Adults at Home
- Frequency of Good Sleep
- Body Image

#### **5 DIMENSIONS OF THE MDI**



#### CONNECTEDNESS

#### MEASURES

- Adults at School
- Adults in the
- Neighbourhood
- Adults at Home
- Peer Belonging
  Friendship Intimacy Important Adults

USE OF AFTER-SCHOOL TIME

#### MEASURES

#### Organized Activities

- Educational Lessons or Activities
- Youth Organizations
- Sports
- Music or Arts How Children Spend Their Time After-School People and Places Children's Wishes and Barriers



#### SCHOOL EXPERIENCES

#### MEASURES

Academic Self-Concept School Climate School Belonging Motivation Future Goals Victimization and Bullying

#### WELL-BEING INDEX

• A measure in the Well-Being Index



#### **ASSETS INDEX**

• A measure in the Assets Index



#### UNDERSTANDING YOUR MDI RESULTS

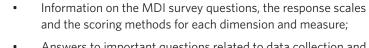
2015/2016 THE MIDDLE YEARS DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT

A GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING

YOUR MDI RESULTS



The MDI companion, "A Guide to Understanding your MDI Results" was developed to support the interpretation and application of MDI results for schools and communities. The guide provides:



- Answers to important questions related to data collection and privacy, mapping and reporting, as well as the reliability and validity of the MDI;
- Recommendations for moving to action with your MDI results;
- Highlights from current research related to children's healthy development during the middle years and evidence on the importance of the MDI's five dimensions of children's well-being;
- Related research publications and online resources.

**Visit our website -** Visit our website to learn more about the MDI, to access additional resources and tools, or to contact HELP staff and researchers: www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/mdi.

**From the research -** Highlights from current middle years research are provided throughout the report to help contextualize your MDI results and support understanding of key issues in children's development. For a full list of citations, please see the MDI References section in "A Guide to Understanding your MDI Results."

Look for these icons in the report to lead you to further information and research.







MDI data can support planning and initiate action within schools, organizations and communities. There are many opportunities for working with your MDI results and there are examples of successful initiatives from across the province to learn from. Here, we provide suggestions to help you get started. In addition, HELP staff and researchers are available to provide support to MDI initiatives. If you would like to request support or tell us about your experiences using MDI data please contact our team: mdi@help.ubc.ca.

#### **1. ENGAGE IN CONVERSATIONS**

Review your MDI results in collaboration with children, parents and elders, teachers, school administrators, after-school program staff, local early/middle childhood committees, librarians, parks and recreation staff, local government and other community stakeholders. Highlight strengths and examples of success. Increasing local dialogue on the importance of child well-being in the middle years is an excellent way to start improving outcomes for children. Identify school and community champions and create an action plan that involves participation from everyone.

#### 2. INVOLVE CHILDREN

The results from the MDI survey can be shared with children. Involve them as much as possible in the interpretation of the data and gather their feedback on how both the school and the community can better serve their needs. Ask for their suggestions on how to improve their school climate and after-school experiences. Teachers may wish to incorporate an exploration of MDI data into their classroom curriculum. Children tend to offer creative solutions that can often be implemented easily and at no cost.

#### 3. THINK BIG, START SMALL

The MDI provides rich data related to the whole child. It may be overwhelming to consider the many opportunities presented in the data for schools, communities and governments to improve child wellbeing. Moving to action with MDI data will be more successful if you focus your efforts on 1 or 2 areas for improvement. There are different ways to approach the data. You can focus on individual measures, such as Optimism, Bedtimes, Peer Belonging and Empathy. Alternatively, you can focus on outcomes related to the Well-Being Index, such as 'Thriving', or Assets Index, such as the presence of positive Adult Relationships. Questions to consider when identifying an area of focus are: Which measures resonate the most with your stakeholders? Which measures do you have influence over? Which areas align with your mission and mandate?

#### 4. LEARN FROM THE SUCCESS OF OTHERS

Review the data from other neighbourhoods and school districts. Do you see examples of success that you would like to replicate? Connect with local champions or leaders from these areas to discuss the actions they have taken to improve child well-being. Likewise, you may want to consider sharing local initiatives and learnings across schools and across districts.

#### 5. CHECK OUT OUR ONLINE RESOURCE

HELP has created 'Tools for Action,' an online resource that will help schools and communities interpret and act upon the data included in the MDI reports. You will find videos, worksheets, print resources and examples of how other communities have used their MDI data to move to action. The 'Tools for Action' can be accessed on our website: www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/mdi/tools.

#### 6. EXPLORE LOCAL MDI RESULTS

Neighbourhoods have unique characteristics that provide important context for interpreting MDI results. Understanding neighbourhood-level differences within a school district or community is important when considering actions to support children's well-being. Explore local data by using the neighbourhood profiles and maps. Both are useful for illustrating and understanding neighbourhood-level strengths and challenges.

# MDI ABOUT THE 2015/2016 RESULTS

#### HOW THE RESULTS ARE REPORTED

This report provides the MDI data at two levels of geography: by school district and by neighbourhood.

- School district data Averages are reported for all children who participated within the school district.
- Neighbourhood data Averages are reported for all children living within a particular neighbourhood. These data are aggregated using children's home postal codes, not by where they attend school.

Where school districts or neighbourhoods contain fewer than 35 children, the results are suppressed.

The data in this report have been rounded. Many questions on the MDI allow children to provide multiple responses. Totals for some measures and questions may not equal 100%.

#### PARTICIPATING SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Eleven school districts participated in the Grade 7 MDI in the 2015/2016 school year, with a total of **5,653** students completing the questionnaire.

This report compares school district results to all of the MDI data collected across the province this year. When making this comparison, it is important to consider the distribution of this year's participating school districts. Please note that these data **do not represent a complete provincial snapshot**.

School District	Number of Children	Participation Rate
19 Revelstoke	70	93%
35 Langley	1,345	79%
41 Burnaby	1,422	76%
43 Coquitlam	1,981	80%
46 Sunshine Coast	183	85%
50 Haida Gwaii	57	93%
51 Boundary	79	79%
53 Okanagan- Similkameen	127	82%
58 Nicola- Similkameen	114	76%
70 Alberni	230	78%
78 Fraser-Cascade	45	33%
All Participating School Districts	5,653	78%





#### **REVELSTOKE (SD 19)**

#### DEMOGRAPHICS

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT POPULATION

Total Sample	70	Boys	28
Participation Rate	93%	Girls	38

#### **Total Sample**

Refers to the total number of children represented in this report. Children are included in the district sample if they complete at least one question on the MDI questionnaire.

#### **Participation Rate**

Refers to the percentage of the school district's total Grade 7 population that participated in the MDI survey this year.

#### LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

#### Gender

Children are asked to report their gender and this report reflects their responses. Responses may not add to the district total as some children did not provide an answer to the question on gender.

Aboriginal Language	0%	Korean	0%
Cantonese	0%	Mandarin	0%
English	99%	Punjabi	1%
Filipino/Tagalog	1%	Spanish	0%
French	6%	Vietnamese	0%
Hindi	0%	Other	6%
Japanese	1%		

#### Languages Spoken at Home

Children are able to select more than one language spoken in the home. Therefore, in some cases, the percentages may add up to more than 100%.

#### **Aboriginal Languages**

If a child selects "Aboriginal Language" as a language spoken at home they are then asked to identify, if possible, the specific language. These data are not publicly available.

#### Other

A limited selection of languages are offered on the MDI questionnaire. The "other" category gives children an opportunity to enter their own response(s). For a list of common responses given for "other" languages, please email: mdi@help.ubc.ca.

# SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### IT'S IMPORTANT BECAUSE...

**OPTIMISM** 

**EMPATHY** 

SELF-ESTEEM

**HAPPINESS** 

**ABSENCE OF SADNESS** 

ABSENCE OF WORRIES

**PROSOCIAL BEHAVIOUR** 

Social and emotional competencies are critical for children's successful development throughout their lives. Social and emotional well-being is associated with greater motivation and achievement in school, as well as positive outcomes later in life including post-secondary education, employment, healthy lifestyles, and physical and psychological well-being.

Detailed information on the MDI survey questions and response scales for Social and Emotional Development are available in the MDI Guide.

### **RESULTS FOR YOUR DISTRICT**



Percentage of children who reported:



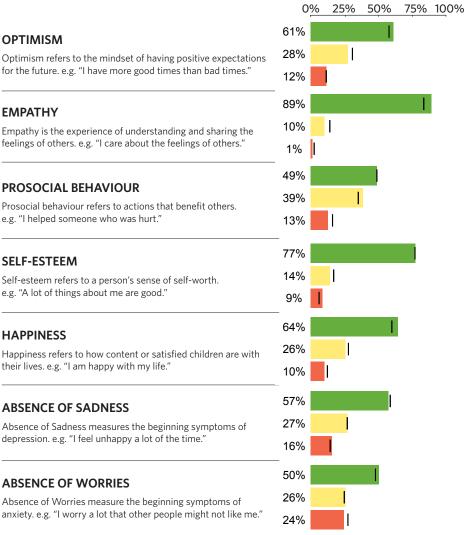
Medium well-being

Low well-being

Average for all districts, 2015/16\* (Number of children: 5,653)

\*See page 9 for a list of participating school districts. Please note that these data do not represent a complete provincial snapshot.

The MDI questionnaire asks children 23 questions related to their Social and Emotional Development. For a complete list of questions and an explanation of how these measures are scored, see 'A Guide to Understanding your MDI Results."



#### 2015/2016 GRADE 7 MDI - 11 **REVELSTOKE (SD 19)**

#### SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Total number of children in SD 19: 70

Percentage of children who reported:

High well-being

Medium well-being



Average for all districts, 2015/16\* (Number of children: **5,653**)

\*See page 9 for a list of participating school districts. Please note that these data do not represent a complete provincial snapshot.

#### **SELF-REGULATION (LONG-TERM)**

Long-term self-regulation requires adapting present behaviour to achieve a goal in the future. e.g. "If something isn't going according to my plans, I change my actions to try and reach my goal."

#### SELF-REGULATION (SHORT-TERM)

Short-term self-regulation is about impulse control. It requires adapting behaviour or emotions to meet an immediate goal. e.g. "I can calm myself down when I'm excited or upset."

#### **RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING**

Responsible decision-making is about understanding the consequences of one's actions and making good choices about personal behaviour. e.g. "When I make a decision, I think about what might happen afterward."

#### **SELF-AWARENESS**

Self-awareness is the ability to recognize one's emotions and thoughts while understanding their influence on behaviour. e.g. "When I'm upset, I notice how I am feeling before I do something."

#### PERSEVERANCE

Perseverance refers to determination. It means putting in persistent effort to achieve goals, even in the face of setbacks. e.g. "Once I make a plan to get something done, I stick to it."

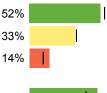
#### ASSERTIVENESS

Assertiveness means communicating a personal point of view. It includes the ability to stand up for oneself. e.g. "If I disagree with a friend, I tell them."

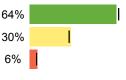






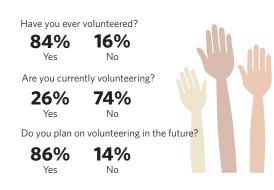






#### CITIZENSHIP AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Children are asked to rate the following statements:	Disagree a lot	Disagree a little	Don't agree or disagree	Agree a little	Agree a lot
I believe I can make a difference in the world.	6%	6%	22%	16%	49%
I try to make this world a better place.	0%	4%	16%	33%	46%



A Vancouver-based study asked Grade 10 children to volunteer 1-1.5 hours per week with elementary school children. After 10 weeks researchers found participants had significantly decreased their risk for cardiovascular disease. The greatest health benefits were seen in children who displayed the highest self-report measures of empathy and mental health.

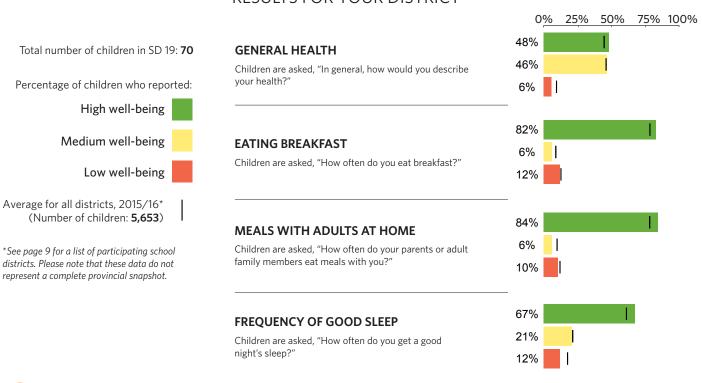
(Schreier, Schonert-Reichl, & Chen, 2013)



#### IT'S IMPORTANT BECAUSE ...

Promoting children's physical and mental health is important for maintaining their overall health outcomes. It is important to provide children with direction, information and opportunities to develop a healthy lifestyle and to make appropriate lifestyle choices. In addition to physical activity, a good night's sleep, combined with sharing meals with family members and starting the day with a healthy breakfast, are important factors for positive physical health outcomes.

Detailed information on the MDI survey questions and response scales for Physical Health and Well-Being are available in the **MDI Guide**.



#### **RESULTS FOR YOUR DISTRICT**

When families eat together regularly there are positive and preventative effects on children's healthy behaviours, self-esteem and academic achievement. These mealtime routines provide opportunities for building family cohesion and stability, as well as teaching children about healthy food behaviours. Sharing meals with family during young adulthood is associated with better diet quality, including higher intake of fruit, vegetables, milk products and other key nutrients.

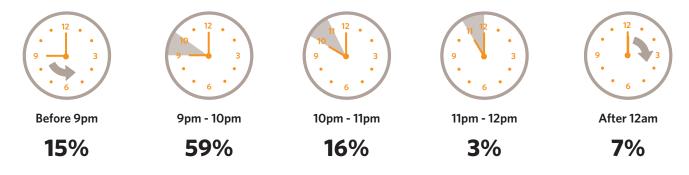
(Larson et al., 2013)

(Harrison, 2015)

#### PHYSICAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING



#### WHAT TIME DO YOU USUALLY GO TO BED DURING THE WEEKDAYS?



Children's lack of sleep is linked with increases in anxiety, while anxiety is also associated with disturbing children's sleep patterns. During middle childhood the brain is particularly sensitive to sleep quality because the brain's memory and learning processes are developing during these periods.

(McMakin & Alfano, 2015)

#### HOW OFTEN DO YOU EAT FOOD LIKE POP, CANDY, POTATO CHIPS, OR SOMETHING ELSE?



Never-Once/week





2-4 times/week 55%



5+ times/week

Do you have a physical or health condition that keeps you from doing some things other kids your age do? For example, school activities, sports or getting together with friends. Children can select all of the options that apply.

No health condition			Yes, overweight	Yes, something else
<b>90</b> %	3%	4%	1%	4%



#### IT'S IMPORTANT BECAUSE ...

Children's connections to their parents, peers and the people in their schools and communities play a central role in their development. These connections promote mental health and can act as protective factors to children's well-being. Research shows that a single caring adult, be it a family member, a teacher or a neighbour, can make a very powerful difference in a child's life.

Detailed information on the MDI survey questions and response scales for Connectedness are available in the **MDI Guide**.

#### RESULTS FOR YOUR DISTRICT

#### **CONNECTEDNESS WITH ADULTS**

Total number of children in SD 19: 70

Percentage of children who reported:

High well-being

Medium well-being

Low well-being

Average for all districts, 2015/16\* (Number of children: **5,653**)

\*See page 9 for a list of participating school districts. Please note that these data do not represent a complete provincial snapshot.

#### ADULTS AT SCHOOL

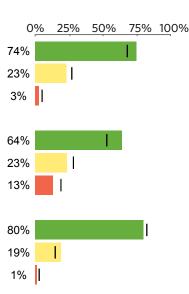
Assesses the quality of relationships children have with the adults they interact with at school. e.g. "At my school there is an adult who believes I will be a success."

#### ADULTS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD/ COMMUNITY

Assesses the quality of relationships children have with the adults they interact with in their neighbourhood or community. e.g. "In my neighbourhood/community there is an adult who really cares about me."

#### ADULTS AT HOME

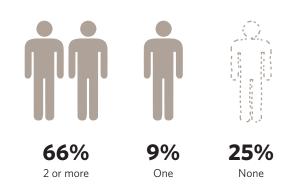
Assesses the quality of relationships children have with the adults in their home. e.g. "In my home there is a parent or other adult who listens to me when I have something to say."



Social relationships during middle childhood strongly influence well-being. Among Grade 4 students, peer belonging and positive relationships with adults in the home were associated with better outcomes on self-reported well-being. In addition, feeling connected to adults in school was linked to both increased health and life satisfaction.

(Gadermann, Guhn, Schonert-Reichl et al, 2015)

#### NUMBER OF IMPORTANT ADULTS AT SCHOOL



#### WHAT MAKES AN ADULT IMPORTANT TO YOU?:

Children can select all of the statements they agree with

	At School	At Home
This person teaches me how to do things that I don't know.	89%	84%
I can share personal things and private feelings with this person.	28%	75%
This person likes me the way I am.	75%	93%
This person encourages me to pursue my goals and future plans.	77%	88%
I get to do a lot of fun things with this person or because of this person.	52%	87%
The person is like who I want to be when I am an adult.	22%	57%
The person is always fair to me and others.	61%	71%
The person stands up for me and others when we need it.	48%	72%
The person lets me make decisions for myself.	59%	72%

#### Percentage of children who responded "very much true" when asked: IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD/COMMUNITY THERE ARE ADULTS WHO:



a success.



Really care about me.



Listen to me when I have something to say.

#### **CONNECTEDNESS WITH PEERS**

Total number of children in SD 19: 70

Percentage of children who reported:

High well-being

Medium well-being

Low well-being

Average for all districts, 2015/16\* (Number of children: **5,653**)

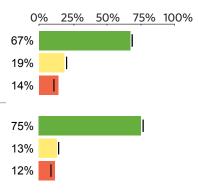
\*See page 9 for a list of participating school districts. Please note that these data do not represent a complete provincial snapshot.

#### PEER BELONGING

Measures children's feelings of belonging to a social group. e.g. "When I am with other kids my age, I feel I belong."

#### FRIENDSHIP INTIMACY

Assesses the quality of relationships children have with their peers. e.g. "I have a friend I can tell everything to."





A 32-year study of children's pathways to positive well-being in adulthood found that strong social connections in adolescence are a better predictor of well-being in adulthood than their academic achievement.

(Olsson, 2013)



#### IT'S IMPORTANT BECAUSE ...

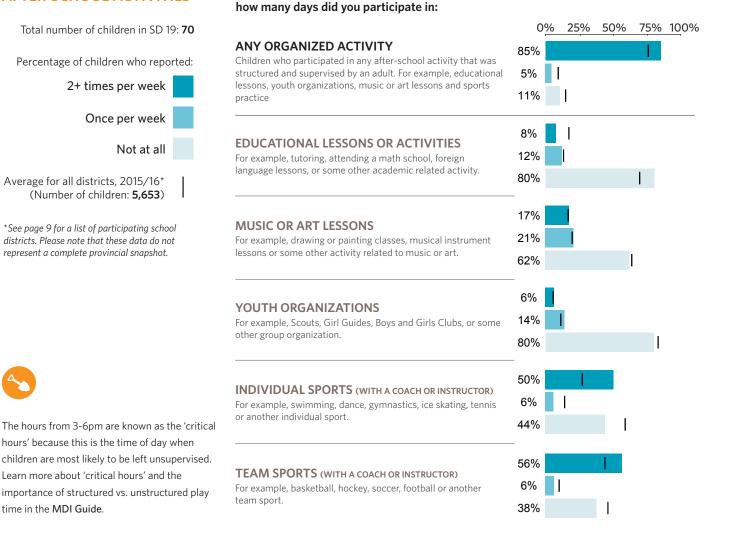
Participation in activities after school provides important developmental experiences for children in their middle years. These activities create a variety of opportunities for children to build relationship skills and gain competencies. Research has consistently found that children who are engaged in after-school activities experience greater academic and social success.

Detailed information on the MDI survey questions and response scales for Use of After-School Time are available in the **MDI Guide**.

#### RESULTS FOR YOUR DISTRICT

During last week after school (from 3pm-6pm),

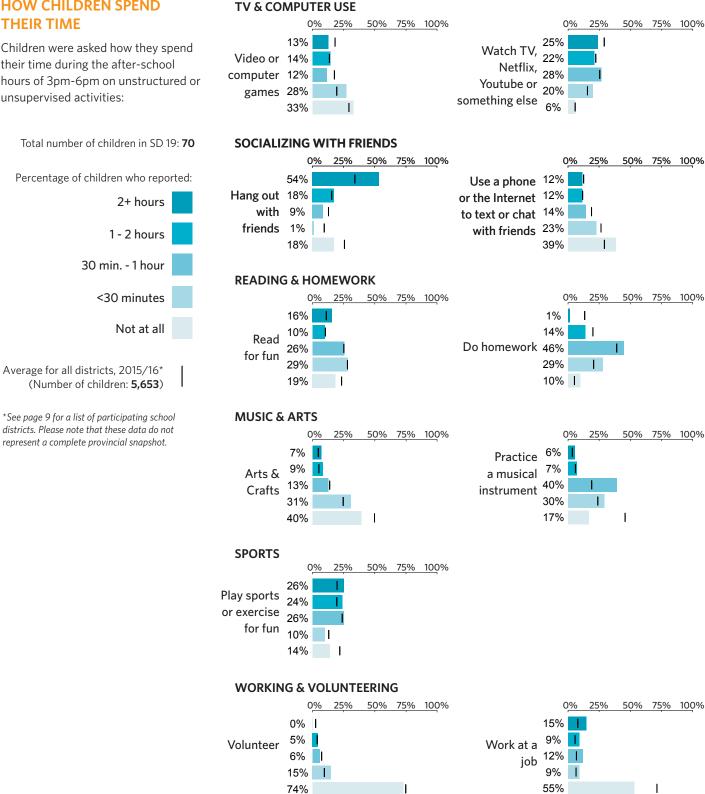
#### **AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**



#### USE OF AFTER-SCHOOL TIME

#### **HOW CHILDREN SPEND THEIR TIME**

Children were asked how they spend their time during the after-school hours of 3pm-6pm on unstructured or unsupervised activities:



#### WHAT CHILDREN WISH TO BE DOING

Children were asked what they want to be doing during the after school hours of 3pm-6pm:



Children who answered that they wish to be doing additional activities were asked to identify one activity they wish they could do and where they would like to do it. Note: responses are grouped into categories for reporting purposes.

WISHES	(Number of students)
Computer/Video Games/TV	0
Friends and Playing	0
Physical and/or Outdoor Activities	9
Music and Fine Arts	2
Time with Family at Home	0
Work Related Activities/Volunteering	0
Free Time/Relaxing	0
Other	0

### WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE THIS ACTIVITY TO BE?

Community Centre	
Home	2
Park or Playground	3
School	5
Other	4

#### PERCEIVED BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATING IN DESIRED AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Children were asked what prevents them from doing the activities they wish to be doing after school (3pm-6pm): Children can select all of the options that apply

l have no barriers.	40
I have to go straight home after school.	5
l am too busy.	17
It costs too much.	12
The schedule does not fit the times I can attend.	13
My parents do not approve.	4
l don't know what's available.	1
I need to take care of siblings or do things at home.	5
It is too difficult to get there.	5
None of my friends are interested or want to go.	6
The activity that I want is not offered.	7
I have too much homework to do.	12
I am afraid I will not be good enough in that activity.	7
It is not safe for me to go.	0
Other.	5

(Number of students)

A study examining the experiences of children in Grades 1-5 who participated in after-school programs found that children who participated in high-quality, structured after-school programs had increased social-emotional skills, in addition to fewer conduct problems and higher social self-control and assertion.

(Wade, 2015)

#### AFTER-SCHOOL PEOPLE AND PLACES

#### WHERE DO YOU GO AFTER SCHOOL? (From 3pm-6pm)

	Never	Once a week	2+ times a week
Home	0%	7%	93%
Stay at school for an activity	30%	19%	51%
After-school program or child care	81%	4%	15%
Friend's house	16%	36%	48%
Park/playground/community centre	41%	26%	33%
The mall or stores	64%	23%	13%
Someplace else	48%	30%	22%

In your neighbourhood/community there are safe places where you feel comfortable to hang out with friends:

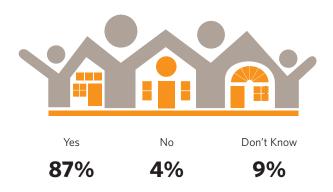


#### WHO ARE YOU WITH AFTER SCHOOL?

(Children can select all of the options that apply)

By myself	61%
Friends about my age	67%
Younger brothers/sisters	40%
Older brothers/sisters	21%
Mother (or stepmother/foster mother)	59%
Father (or stepfather/foster father)	49%
Other adult (such as grandparent, aunt or uncle, coach, babysitter)	30%
Other	7%

In your neighbourhood/community there are places that provide programs for kids your age:

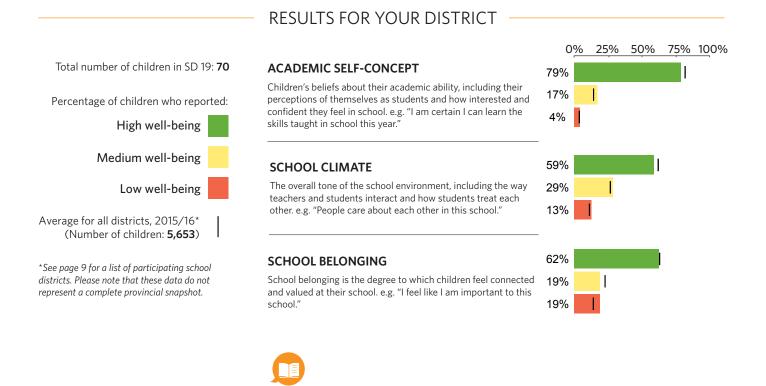




#### IT'S IMPORTANT BECAUSE ...

The transition from elementary school to middle and high school is a critical time developmentally. Children's experiences of bullying, as well as teacher and peer relationships change significantly during these transitions. Children's sense of safety and belonging at school can foster greater school success. When children feel their needs are being met at school they are more likely to feel attached to their school, have better attendance and higher academic performance.

Detailed information on the MDI survey questions and response scales for School Experiences are available in the **MDI Guide**.

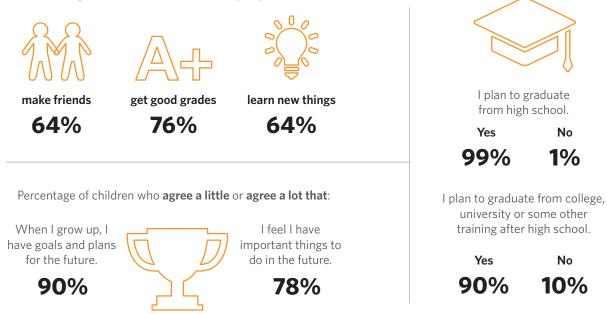


# Children's perception of kindness within a school is a consistent indicator of a positive school climate. Students who see kind behaviours in students, teachers and staff also describe their school environments as being safe and encouraging places to learn. As children transition from Grade 4 to Grade 8, perceptions of kindness in schools decrease.

(Binfet, Gadermann & Schonert-Reichl, 2016)

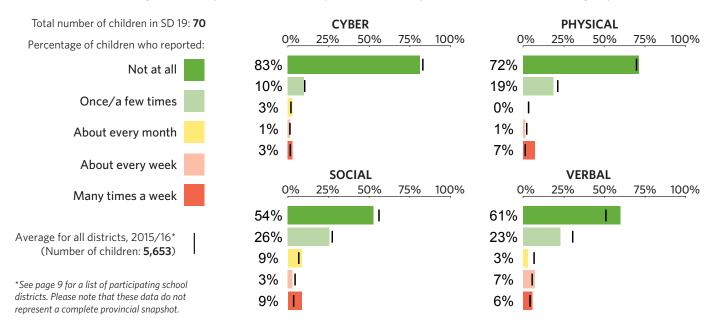
#### SCHOOL EXPERIENCES

Percentage of children who feel it is very important to:



#### VICTIMIZATION AND BULLYING AT SCHOOL

Children are asked: 'During this school year, how often have you been bullied by other students in the following ways':



Child

Children and youth who demonstrate empathy are less likely to bully others and are more likely to defend against bullying. Research shows that specific empathy skills differ between those who bully, are victimized, defend or are bystanders. Focusing on developing children's understanding of what others feel results both in less bullying and more defending behaviours. (van Noorden et al, 2015)

### 22 - SCHOOL DISTRICT RESULTS



## WELL-BEING & ASSETS INDICES

Combining select measures of the MDI helps us paint a fuller picture of children's overall well-being and the assets that contribute to their healthy development. In this section of the report, results for key MDI measures are summarized into two indices that deepen our understanding of how the five dimensions work together to support children: The Well-Being Index and the Assets Index.

MDI research has shown there is a relationship between children's assets and well-being. Children's self-reported well-being is directly related to the number of assets they perceive in their lives; as the number of assets in a child's life increases, they are more likely to report higher levels of well-being. This finding is consistent across all participating school districts in British Columbia.

#### **THE WELL-BEING INDEX**

The Well-Being Index combines MDI measures relating to children's physical health and social and emotional development that are of critical importance during the middle years. These are: Optimism, Happiness, Self-Esteem, Absence of Sadness and General Health.

Scores from these five measures are combined and reported by three categories of well-being, providing a holistic summary of children's mental and physical health:

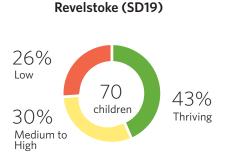


Medium to High Well-Being Children who are reporting no negative responses, but fewer than 4 positive responses.



Low Well-Being Children who are reporting negative responses on at least 1 measure of well-being.

#### **RESULTS FOR YOUR DISTRICT**



#### All Participating Districts



#### THE ASSETS INDEX

The Assets Index combines measures that highlight four key assets that help to promote children's positive development and wellbeing. Assets are positive experiences, relationships or behaviours present in children's lives.



**Adult Relationships** Adults at School Adults in the Neighbourhood Adults at Home



**Peer Relationships** Peer Belonging Friendship Intimacy



**Nutrition & Sleep Eating Breakfast** Meals with Adults at Home Frequency of Good Sleep



**After-School Activities Organized Activities** 

50%

75%

100%

**RESULTS FOR YOUR DISTRICT** 

#### Percentage of children reporting the presence of the following assets in their lives:

Total number of children in SD 19: 70

Average for all districts, 2015/16\* (Number of children: 5,653)

\*See page 9 for a list of participating school districts. Please note that these data do not represent a complete provincial snapshot.



**Nutrition & Sleep** 



**Peer Relationships** 81% 74%

0%

84%

89%

25%

After-School Activities





Neighbourhoods have unique characteristics that provide important context for interpreting MDI results. Understanding neighbourhood-level differences within a school district or community is essential when considering actions to support children's well-being. The neighbourhood results section includes:

#### **Neighbourhood Maps**

- Your Community Map: representing school district and neighbourhood boundaries
- Well-Being Index Map: representing the percentage of children who are "Thriving."
- Assets Index Maps: representing the percentage of children reporting the presence of each of the four assets of the Assets Index: Adult Relationships, Peer Relationships, Nutrition and Sleep, and After-School Activities.

Neighbourhood Data Table - a summary table of the Well-Being Index and Assets Index data.

**Neighbourhood Profiles** - a summary of MDI data based on the neighbourhoods in which children live. Results are provided for the Well-Being Index, the Assets Index and a selection of questions related to after-school time and community belonging and safety.

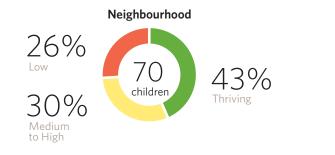
Note that these data are aggregated based on childrens' home postal codes, not by where they go to school. Where neighbourhoods contain fewer than 35 children, the results are suppressed.

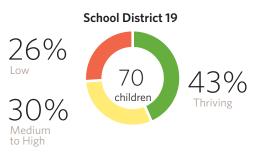




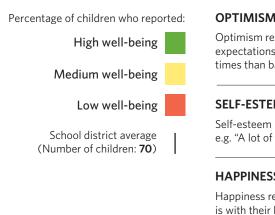
Number of children: 70

#### **WELL-BEING INDEX**





#### MEASURES COMPRISING THE WELL-BEING INDEX



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Optimism refers to the mindset of having positive expectations for the future. e.g. "I have more good times than bad times."

#### SELF-ESTEEM

Self-esteem refers to a person's sense of self-worth. e.g. "A lot of things about me are good."

#### **HAPPINESS**

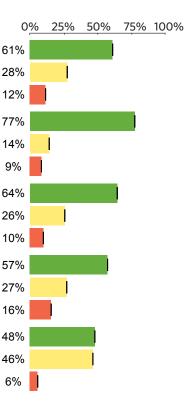
Happiness refers to how content or satisfied a person is with their life. e.g. "I am happy with my life."

#### **ABSENCE OF SADNESS**

Sadness measures the beginning symptoms of depression. e.g. "I feel unhappy a lot of the time."

#### **GENERAL HEALTH**

Children are asked, "In general, how would you describe your health?"

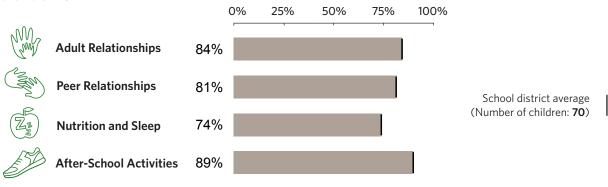


#### NEIGHBOURHOOD PROFILE: REVELSTOKE

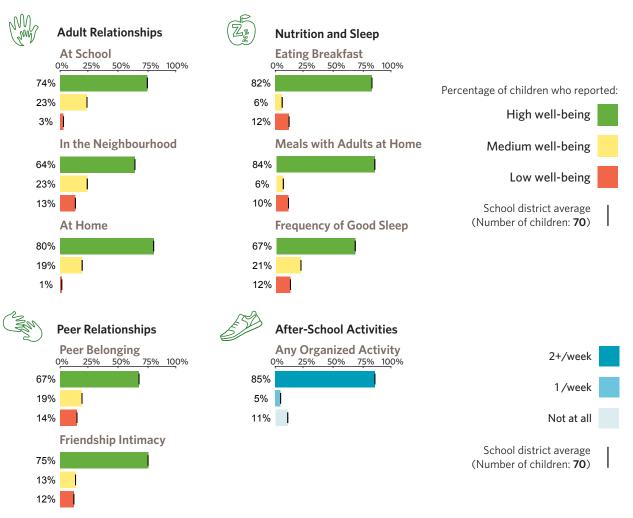
#### **ASSETS INDEX**

#### Percentage of children reporting the presence of the following assets in their lives:

Number of children: 70



#### MEASURES COMPRISING THE ASSETS INDEX



#### NEIGHBOURHOOD PROFILE: REVELSTOKE

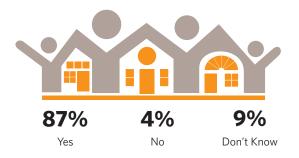
#### **USE OF AFTER-SCHOOL TIME**

-	lready doing you wish to	Top activities children wish to be doing after-school	(Number) Children)	in after-school activities	(Number of Children)
∾ <b>18%</b>	Yes 90%	Physical and/or Outdoor Activi Music and Fine Arts		9 I am too busy 2 Does not fit my schedule Have too much homework	17 13 12

During last week AFTER SCHOOL (from 3pm-6pm), how many days did you participate in:

	Not at all	Once a week	2+ times/ week
Educational lessons or activities	80%	12%	8%
Art or music lessons	62%	21%	17%
Youth organizations	80%	14%	6%
Individual sports with a coach or instructor	44%	6%	50%
Team sports with a coach or instructor	38%	6%	56%

In your neighbourhood/community there are places that provide programs for kids your age:



#### **COMMUNITY BELONGING & SAFETY**

Percentage of children who responded "very much true" when asked: In your neighbourhood/community there are adults who:



Really care about me.



Believe that I will be a success.



Listen to me when I have something to say.

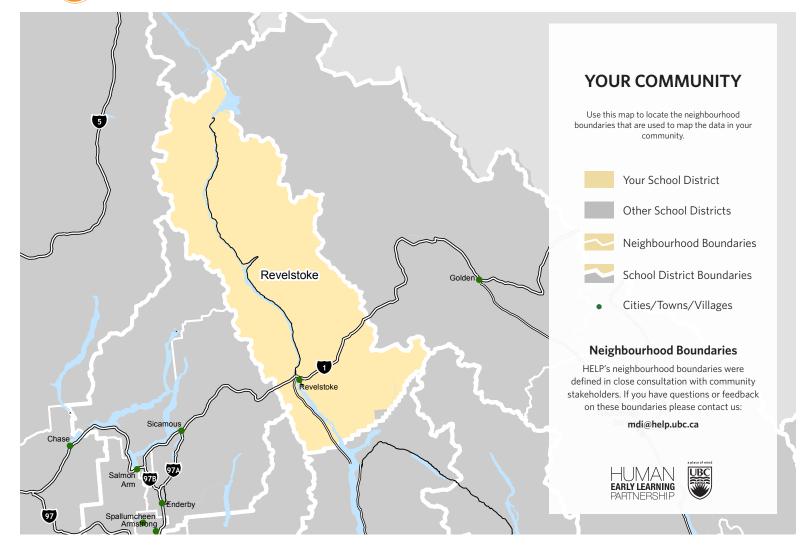
In your neighbourhood/community there are safe places where you feel comfortable to hang out with friends:





To learn more about the MDI or to contact the MDI research team, please visit: earlylearning.ubc.ca/mdi

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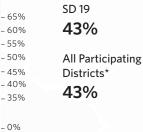




# **WELL-BEING INDEX**

The MDI Well-Being Index is a composite score of 5 measures that are of critical importance during the middle years. Children who report positive responses on at least 4 of the 5 measures are considered to be "thriving."





Data Suppressed (<35 students)

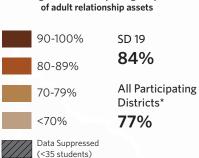
\*See page 9 for a list of participating school districts in 2015/16

Note: Data are mapped using home postal codes, not by where children attend school.





# ADULT RELATIONSHIPS Children's health and well-being are directly related to the presence of adult relationships at home, at school and in their neighbourhood or community.



 $^{\ast}\textsc{See}$  page 9 for a list of participating school districts in 2015/16

Note: Data are mapped using home postal codes, not by where children attend school.





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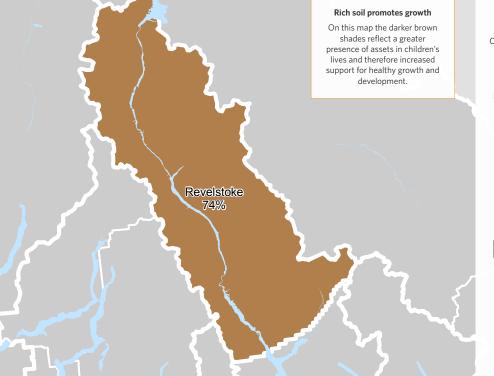
#### Rich soil promotes growth PEER RELATIONSHIPS On this map the darker brown shades reflect a greater Children's health and well-being are directly related presence of assets in children's to feeling a sense of belonging with their peers and lives and therefore increased having close or intimate friendships. support for healthy growth and development. Percentage of children reporting the presence of peer relationship assets 90-100% SD 19 81% 80-89% All Participating Revelstoke 70-79% Districts\* 84% <70% Data Suppressed (<35 students) \*See page 9 for a list of participating school districts in 2015/16 Note: Data are mapped using home postal codes, not by where children attend school. HUMAN EARLY LEARNING UBC PARTNERSHIF

## 7

#### Rich soil promotes growth **NUTRITION & SLEEP** On this map the darker brown shades reflect a greater Children's health and well-being are directly related to presence of assets in children's their nutrition and sleeping habits. lives and therefore increased support for healthy growth and development. Percentage of children reporting the presence of nutrition and sleep assets 90-100% SD 19 74% 80-89% All Participating 70-79% Districts\* 67% <70% Data Suppressed (<35 students) \*See page 9 for a list of participating school districts in 2015/16 Note: Data are mapped using home postal codes, not by where children attend school.







#### Rich soil promotes growth **AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES** On this map the darker brown shades reflect a greater Children's health and well-being are directly related to the positive activities they participate in during the after-school hours of 3-6pm. presence of assets in children's lives and therefore increased support for healthy growth and development. Percentage of children reporting the presence of after-school activity assets 90-100% SD 19 **89**% 80-89% All Participating Revelstoke 70-79% Districts\* 89% 85% <70% Data Suppressed (<35 students) \*See page 9 for a list of participating school districts in 2015/16 Note: Data are mapped using home postal codes, not by where children attend school. HUMAN EARLY LEARNING PARTNERSHI