

Extended Learning at TAE

Extended Learning at Tulalip Academy of Excellence

Across the planning work for Tulalip Academy of Excellence, one theme continues to surface: students thrive when they are engaged in meaningful activity, relationships, and learning at school and beyond the traditional school day.

Why Extended Learning Matters

When students have access to engaging programs outside the school day, they experience:

- stronger relationships with peers and adults
- improved attendance and engagement
- healthier routines and choices
- greater sense of belonging and purpose

This aligns with the ARC model:

- Attachment grows through shared activities
 - Regulation improves with structured routines and movement
 - Competency develops through hands-on learning and exploration
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Inspiration from the Icelandic Model

The Icelandic prevention model demonstrates that when communities provide:

- high-interest activities
- safe, structured spaces
- consistent adult mentorship
- strong family partnership

students are more likely to:

- feel connected to community
- stay engaged in healthy pursuits
- develop confidence and agency

When young people have meaningful things to do and people who care, they make healthier choices and thrive.

What After-School Could Look Like at Tulalip

The ideas we have heard from the community point toward programs that emphasize:

1. High-Interest Opportunities

Students participate in activities that spark curiosity and joy:

- arts and cultural learning
- sports and movement
- outdoor exploration
- building and making
- storytelling and media
- community projects

This keeps students engaged and motivated.

2. Learning by Doing

After-school programs extend the school's experiential approach:

- hands-on projects
- real-world problem solving
- mentoring and apprenticeships
- land-based learning
- collaborative projects

Students continue developing skills and confidence.

3. Strong Partnerships with Youth Services

Working together with Youth Services allows for:

- consistent adult support across the day
- shared values and expectations
- coordinated programming
- deeper connection to community resources

This creates continuity for students.

4. Summer Learning Opportunities

Summer programs prevent learning loss while strengthening:

- relationships
- identity and belonging
- skills and exploration
- cultural connection

Summer becomes a time for growth rather than disconnection.

Learning does not stop when the school day ends.

Students grow when they are engaged in meaningful experiences, relationships, and community life throughout the year.
