

Project Wish Fairy: A Visioning Activity

Overview and purpose

This activity can be used to help shape a shared vision for a healthy school community. Participants are granted a single wish from the “Project Wish Fairy” and are asked to consider how they will use their wish to make their school a healthier place.

Participants

Staff, students, parents, community partners on a school health team

Time needed

25-40 minutes (depending on the number of participants)

Materials

- Piece of paper for each participant
- Pencil for each participant
- Flip chart and marker (optional)

Leader preparation before the activity

- Leaders may want to review the *Creating a Shared Vision* resource¹ for background information and guidance on creating a shared vision for your school.
- Ideas generated from this activity can be used to create or inform your school’s shared vision. Considering the student voice throughout the process of building a healthy school community supports long-term success of work in this area.

Instructions

A. Introduction (5 minutes)

1. Provide each participant with a piece of paper and a pencil.
2. Introduce the activity using the following script:

Do you ever think about what you would wish for if you were granted a wish? Today is your lucky day! You have been granted a single wish from the Project Wish Fairy! The Project Wish Fairy grants special wishes that must be used towards making your school a healthier place for everyone. What would you like to use your wish for in order to make the school a healthier place?

B. Activity (5-10 minutes)

1. Instruct participants to work on their own to come up with a wish that could make their school a healthier place to be (or a healthier school community) for students, staff, families, and community partners.
2. Ask each participant to record their wish on the paper provided.

C. Group discussion (10-15 minutes)

1. Facilitate a group discussion using the following questions, or modify them according to your audience. Ask participants if they would be comfortable sharing their wishes with the group or collect the wishes and read them out loud to the group. Allow time for everyone to share their ideas.
 - *How would your wish improve the school so it’s a better place to be?*
 - *Who would benefit from your wish? Students, teachers, support staff, parents, community partners?*

¹ To find a *Creating a Shared Vision* resource, visit <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/7123.asp>

- *Why is it important that your wish be granted?*
- *Were there similarities between the wishes shared?*

D. Debrief discussion (5-10 minutes)

1. After hearing all participants' wishes, determine some actions that participants can take to help make their wish come true. These might be small actions that lead to larger changes in the future (e.g., saying hello to five people you don't know, thanking your teachers, smiling as you walk down the hall, holding the door for someone, donating time or money to the breakfast program).
2. Invite participants to commit to one action that will improve their school.
3. Wrap up the discussion by informing the participants that the information collected will be used to help guide the next steps of developing a school health vision. It may be helpful to record the common themes from the discussion. These themes can be used with results from a school health assessment to guide your school health action planning.



Source

This resource was adapted from Chinook's Edge School Division's Creating Sustainable and Active Leadership binder.